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YOUNG KING COMICS

～大ヒット発売中YKコミックス～

●狼の名のもと"疾走"していく世田谷爆音伝説!!
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YOUNG KING
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1

宮尾　岳
GAKU★MIYAO

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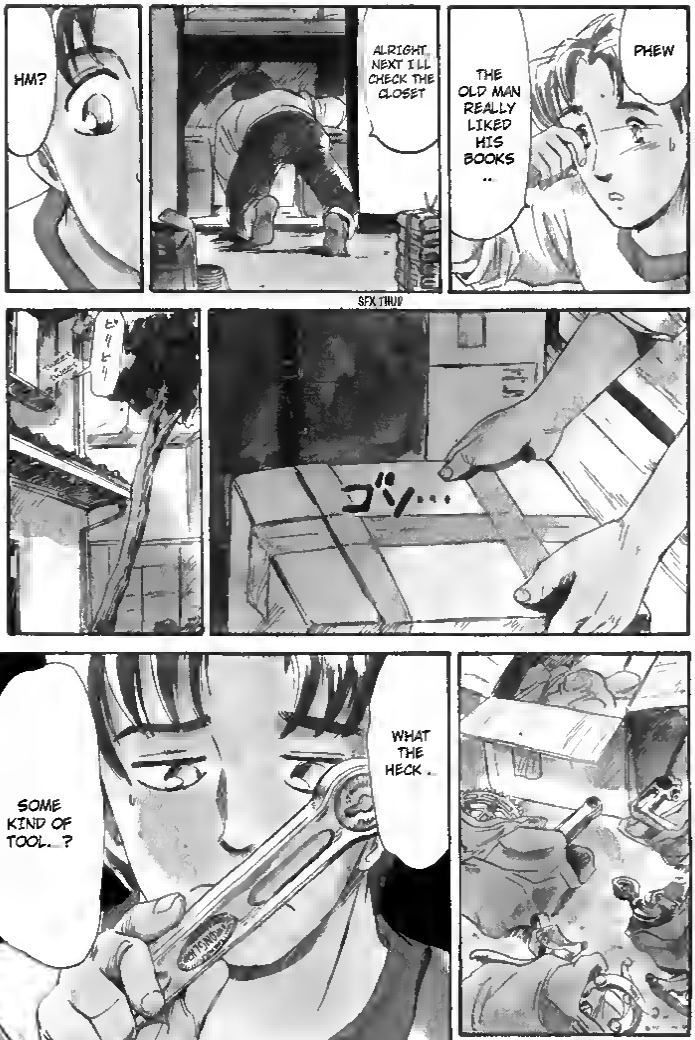
初出 第1話／'99YK7号 第2話／99YK9号 第3話／99YK11号 第4話／'98YK13号 第5話／99YK15号 第6話／'99YK17号 特別編／96YKOURS23号

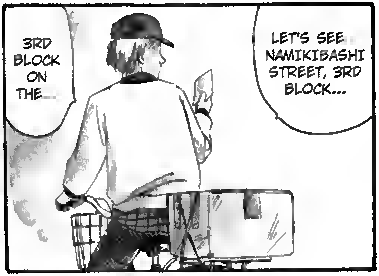
* 'SPORTIF' IS A MADE-UP ENGRISH WORD USED IN JAPAN TO MEAN THE SAME THING AS 'SPORTY' THERE WILL BE MORE INFO ON WHAT CLASSIFIES A 'SPORTIF' BIKE WITHIN THE CHAPTER

CHAPTER 1
FATHER'S SPORTIF

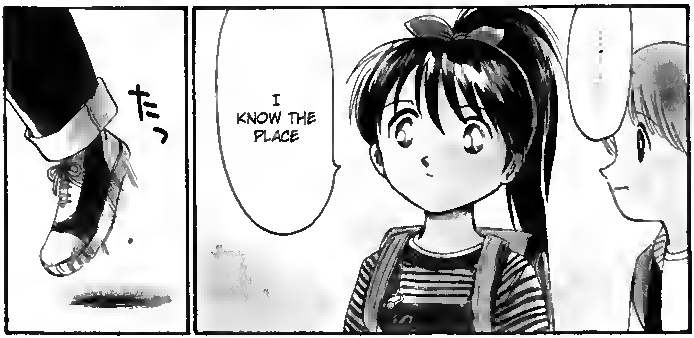
ON AN AUTUMN DAY BEFORE I TURNED 20...
MY DAD DIED
SFX: STRETCH
I KNOW IT MIGHT BE WRONG FOR ME TO SAY THIS AS HIS SON BUT
HE WAS A QUIET AND BORING DAD
EVERYDAY HE WENT AND WORKED FUSSILY FOR A SMALL COMPANY...
HE DIDN'T REALLY HAVE ANY HOBBIES
AND HE DIED PEACEFULLY OF A HEART ATTACK
MOM AND I, LEFT BEHIND, HAD TO MOVE OUT OF THE OLD APARTMENT
FROM HERE ON OUT WE'D NEED TO DO AWAY WITH ANY EXCESS JUNK THAT WAS LEFT BEHIND
SFX: TIGHTEN


HM?
ALRIGHT, NEXT I'LL CHECK THE CLOSET
PHEW
THE OLD MAN REALLY LIKED HIS BOOKS ..
SFX: THUD
ヒソヒソ
ゴソ...
SOME KIND OF TOOL..?
WHAT THE HECK..

coffee


LET'S SEE NAMIKIBASHI STREET, 3RD BLOCK...
3RD BLOCK ON THE...

AH
HAVE YOU KIDS GOT A SECOND? I NEED SOME HELP
DO YOU GUYS KNOW OF A SHOP CALLED THE 'AOBA BICYCLE SHOP'?

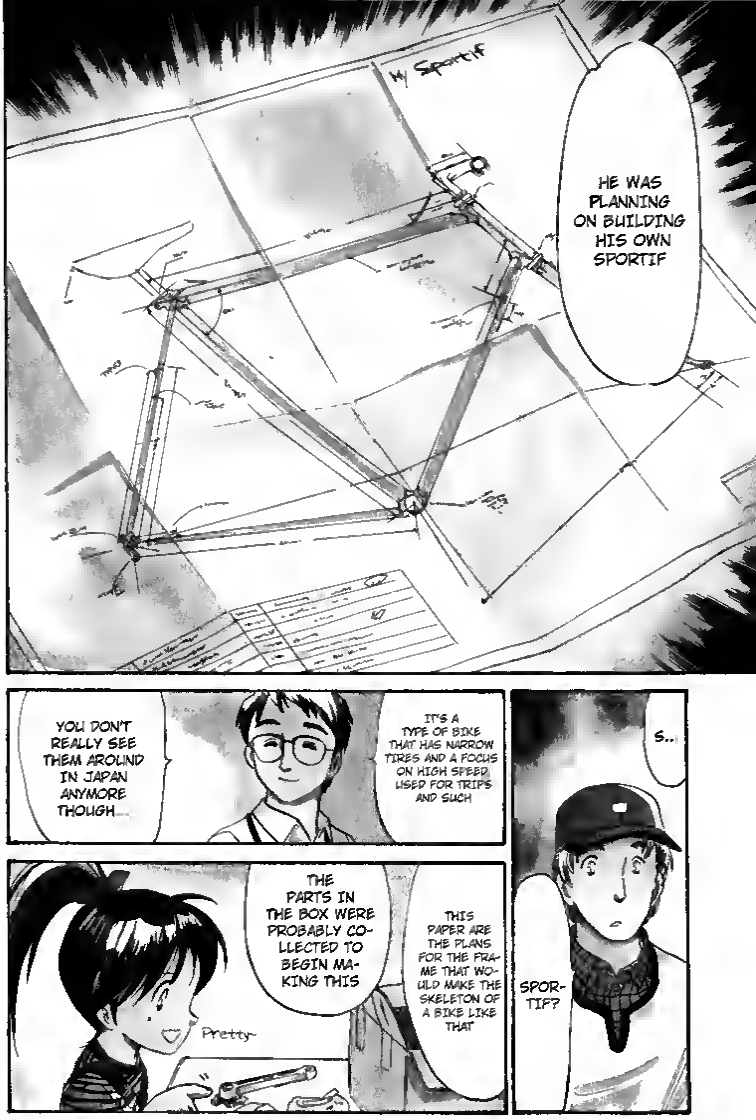

...
I KNOW THE PLACE
たっ

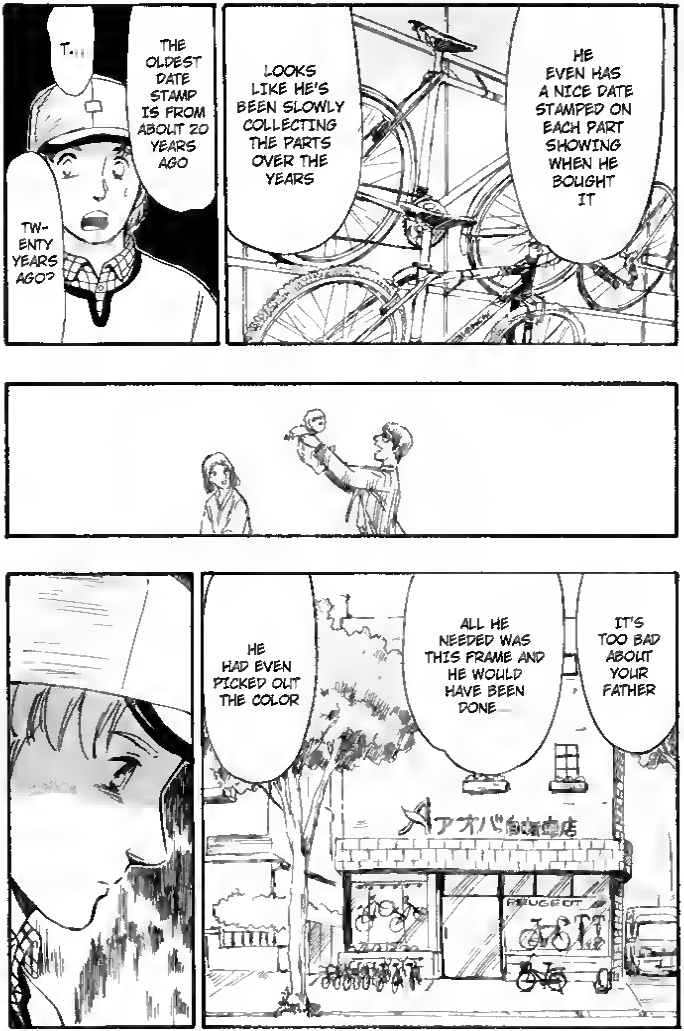
SFX.STEP

HEY, WAIT
AH
ONII-SAN, FOLLOW ME
I'LL SHOW YA
SFX.RATTLE
たたた
SFX.STEP
DAD, WE'VE GOT A CUS-TOMER
キィ…
SFX.CREAK
THANKS, YOU REALLY RUN FAST
HERE WE ARE
PEUGEOT

I TOOK IT TO THE BIKE DEPARTMENT AT THE LOCAL SUPERMARKET BUT THE GUY THERE DIDN'T REALLY RECOGNIZE IT
DO YOU RECOGNIZE IT?
OH, THIS IS
SFX RUMMAGE
I SEE, SO YOU FOUND THESE IN YOUR FATHER'S CLOSET
AH, NO, I WAS JUST FLIPPING THROUGH THE ALPHABETICAL LISTING FOR BIKE SHOP AND YOU GUYS WERE THE TOP OF THE LIST
Since it's A ORA
ONII-CHAN, YOU HAVE GOOD TASTE
Here coffee...
SO YOU BROUGHT IT TO OUR SHOP
I SEE...
A HURET JUBILEE DERAILLEUR
A STRONGLIGHT 49D CRANK
A SUNPLEX SEAT PILLAR
THESE ARE ALL PARTS YOU WOULDN'T COME ACROSS NORMALLY

OF COURSE, YOU CAN LOOK AT IT ALL YOU WANT
IS IT ALRIGHT IF I TAKE A LOOK?
I DIDN'T NOTICE IT
EH
THERE'S SOME-THING AT THE VERY BOTTOM OF THE BOX
!
SFX.OPEN
ばっ
YOUR FATHER.


My Sportif
HE WAS PLANNING ON BUILDING HIS OWN SPORTIF
S..
SPOR-TIF?
THIS PAPER ARE THE PLANS FOR THE FRAME THAT WOULD MAKE THE SKELETON OF A BIKE LIKE THAT
IT'S A TYPE OF BIKE THAT HAS NARROW TIRES AND A FOCUS ON HIGH SPEED, USED FOR TRIPS AND SUCH
YOU DON'T REALLY SEE THEM AROUND IN JAPAN ANYMORE THOUGH...
THE PARTS IN THE BOX WERE PROBABLY COLLECTED TO BEGIN MAKING THIS
Pretty


T...
THE OLDEST DATE STAMP IS FROM ABOUT 20 YEARS AGO
TWENTY YEARS AGO?
LOOKS LIKE HE'S BEEN SLOWLY COLLECTING THE PARTS OVER THE YEARS
HE EVEN HAS A NICE DATE STAMPED ON EACH PART SHOWING WHEN HE BOUGHT IT
HE HAD EVEN PICKED OUT THE COLOR
ALL HE NEEDED WAS THIS FRAME AND HE WOULD HAVE BEEN DONE...
IT'S TOO BAD ABOUT YOUR FATHER
PEUGEOT

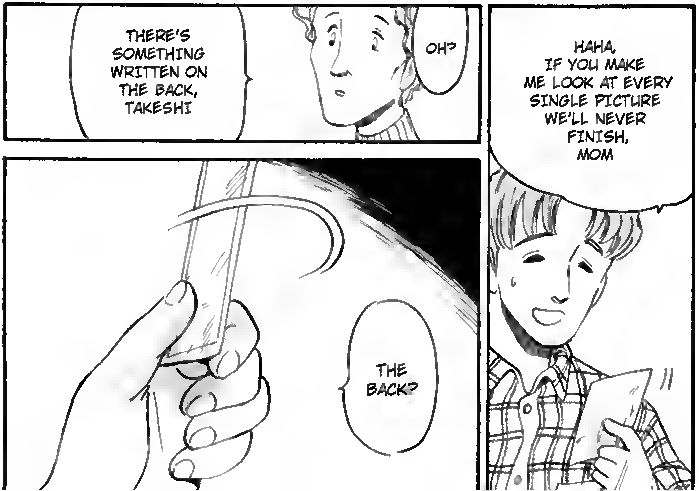
THIS STUFF...
HOW MUCH COULD I SELL IT FOR?
W.. WELL, I MEAN THESE THINGS WOULD PROBABLY GO FOR A VERY HIGH PRICE BUT...
DO YOU REAL-LY...
IT'S EMBAR-RASS-ING, BUT MY FAMILY HAS ALMOST NO SAVINGS
BUT DESPITE THAT MY MOM STILL WANTS TO PUT ME THROUGH COLLEGE

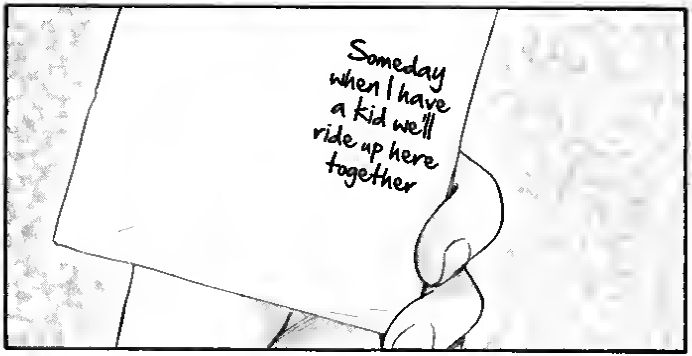
TO SELL OFF ANYTHING THAT WON'T HAVE ANY REAL VALUE FOR MY MOTHER AND ME...
THAT'S WHY I'VE ALREADY DECIDED
WHY DID HE SELL IT...
WHY..

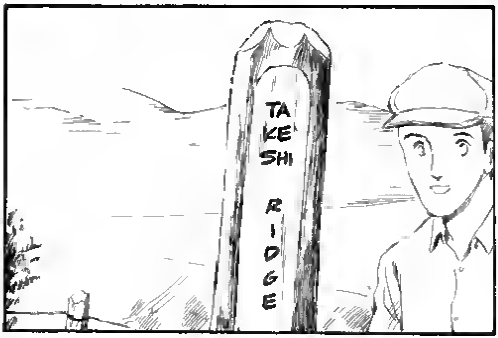
SFX STUMBLE
ドーズズーー!
WAH
ALRIGHT, THESE ALBUMS ARE THE LAST OF IT
WAHHH MISS, I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY
IT'S NO PROBLEM, I WAS JUST THINKING I SHOULD BETTER ORGANIZE THESE ALBUMS
MOM, JUST LEAVE IT, I'LL PICK IT UP, DON'T STRAIN YOURSELF
ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT

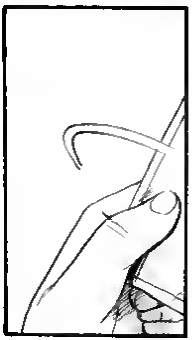
SFX: VROOM
OH MY
HOW NOS-TAL-GIC
HERE LOOK, TAKESHI, THIS WAS BACK WHEN YOU WERE ABOUT 5 YEARS OLD
HM?
THIS IS... TAKESHI...? NO
OH MY, THIS IS FROM WHEN YOUR FATHER WAS A CHILD!

THIS IS BEFORE I MET HIM ..
HE LOOKS TO BE THE SAME AGE AS YOU ARE NOW, TAKESHI
I ALWAYS THOUGHT HE DIDN'T REALLY HAVE ANY HOBBIES
HMM... BUT IT LOOKS LIKE HE DID KNOW HOW TO ENJOY HIMSELF, HERE TAKESHI TAKE A LOOK


HAHA, IF YOU MAKE ME LOOK AT EVERY SINGLE PICTURE WE'LL NEVER FINISH, MOM
OH?
THERE'S SOMETHING WRITTEN ON THE BACK, TAKESHI
THE BACK?


Someday when I have a kid we'll ride up here together


TAKESHI RIDGE



HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
キコ
キコ
キコ
キコ
SFX:CREAK
バン!
SFX:OPEN
HAA
HAA
HAA
ぜえ
ぜえ
UM
S,SORRY!
DID YOU ALREADY SELL THOSE PARTS?!
SFX:WHEEZE
ガシャン
SFX:CRASH

SFX:THUMP
どん!
SFX.RUMMAGE
ゴソ
ゴソ
THANK GOOD-NESS
AND, UM...
YOU SAID IT WOULD BE COMPLETE IF IT JUST HAD A FRAME, RIGHT?
HOW MUCH WOULD THAT COST?
IF WE FOLLOW THAT PLAN
ABOUT 200,000 YEN"
*OR APPROX. $2,000

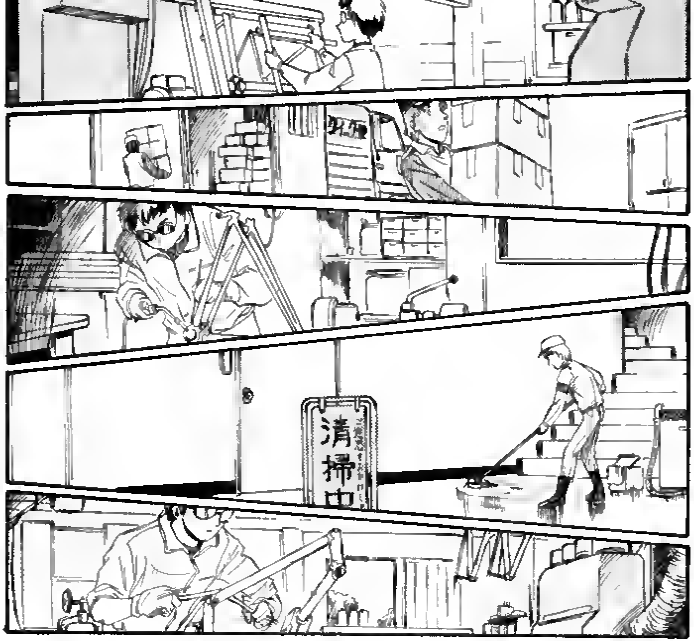
THIS PLAN WOULD COST TWO-HUNDRED THOUSAND YEN!!
THIS... THIS PLAN!
TWO...
TWO-HUNDRED THOU-SAND?
TO DO THAT RIGHT WE'D NEED ABOUT TWO-HUNDRED THOUSAND YEN
THE ONE YOUR FATHER HAD PLANNED WOULD NEED TO BE CUSTOM-MADE, AND IT'S TOP-OF-THE-LINE
I COULD BUY A BUNCH OF NORMAL BIKES FOR THAT MUCH...
YOU'RE TRYING TO SWINDLE ME!!
BUT YOU'RE JUST TARGETING ME CUZ' I DON'T KNOW ABOUT BIKES!!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE A NICE GUY...

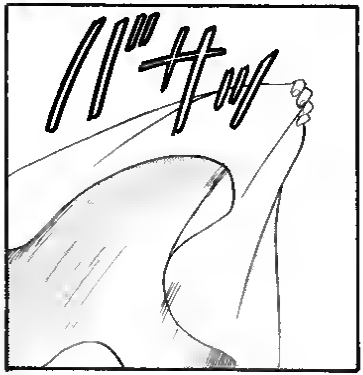
SFX:SPLASH
WE'RE NOT THAT KIND OF STORE!!
SFX:DRIP
DON'T YOU DARE SAY BAD THINGS ABOUT MY DAD!!

SFX:STEP
つか
つか
つか
SFX:SLAP
ぱーんっ
APO-
LOGIZE
TO HIM
W...
WHY,
WHY
HE SAID
BAD THINGS
ABOUT
YOU...
DIFFERENT
PEOPLE VALUE
THINGS DIFFER-
ENTLY
BUT WHAT
YOU DID WAS
JUST PLAIN
RUDE

I'M SORRY
AOBA WAS WRONG!
AH.. NO, I WAS TOO
PELIGET!
WAIT..?
AOBA?
AHAHA, YOU FIGURED IT OUT
10 YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS FIRST STARTING THIS SHOP MY DAUGHTER HAD JUST BEEN BORN AS WELL, SO I ENDED UP USING THE SAME NAME FOR BOTH OF 'EM
MY DAD'S SO SILLY
...HAHAHA

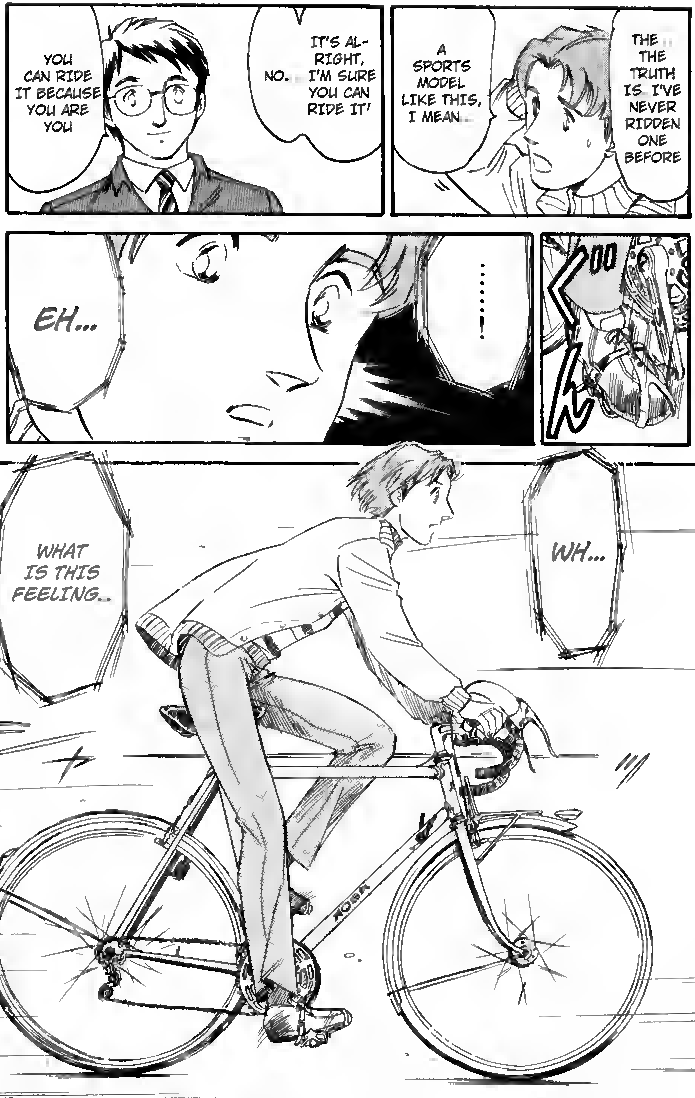
SFX:BOX
ばっ
PLEASE!
SFX:CLICK
カ
SO, PLEASE CREATE THE FRAME MY FATHER WANTED!
I'LL GET A JOB, AND I'LL DEFINITELY PAY YOU!
PLEASE FORGIVE MY RUDENESS EARLIER!
COME AGAIN IN THE SPRING
IT SHOULD TAKE... ABOUT HALF A YEAR
I'LL PUT IT TOGETHER ON MY OFF TIME
THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH
MOBY

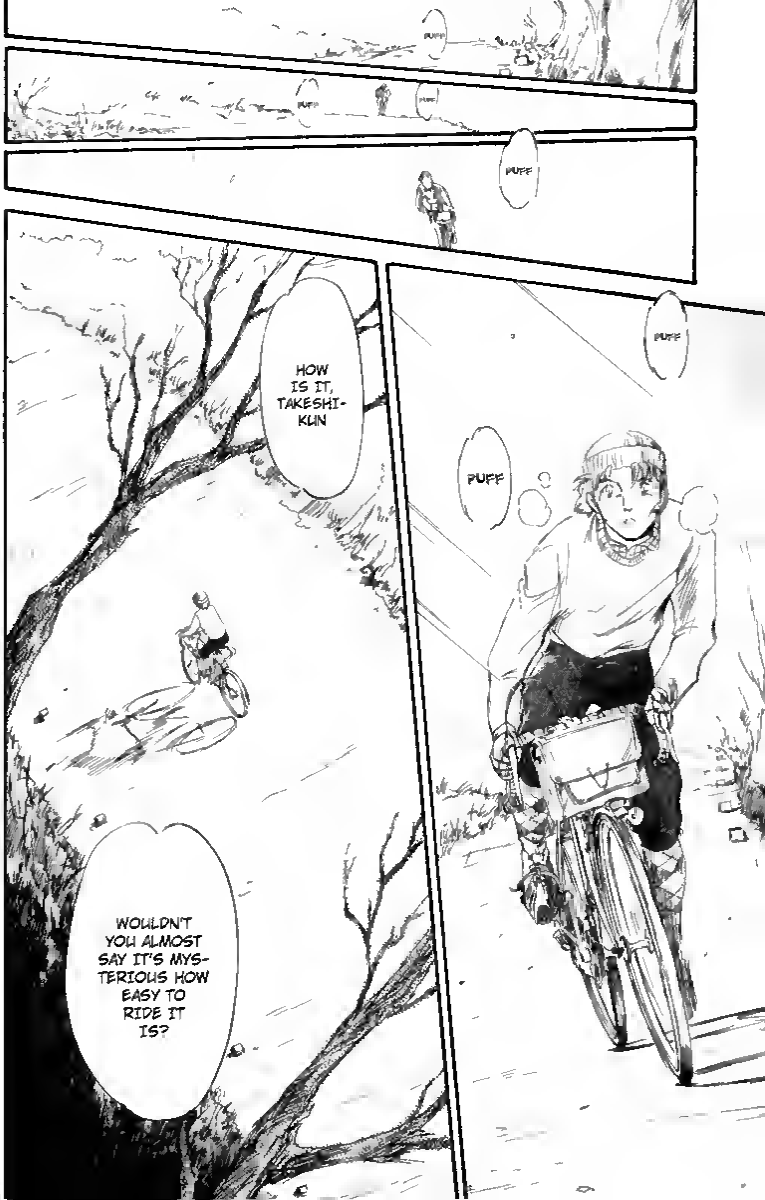

清掃中


バサッ

ROBIN

THIS IS.
MY DAD'S SPORTIF ...
AL-RIGHT
GO AHEAD AND HOP ON, TAKESHI-KUN


YOU CAN RIDE IT BECAUSE YOU ARE YOU
NO. IT'S ALRIGHT. I'M SURE YOU CAN RIDE IT!
A SPORTS MODEL LIKE THIS, I MEAN...
THE THE TRUTH IS I'VE NEVER RIDDEN ONE BEFORE
EH...
.....!
くoo
WHAT IS THIS FEELING..
WH...


PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
HOW IS IT, TAKESHI-KUN
WOULDN'T YOU ALMOST SAY IT'S MYSTERIOUS HOW EASY TO RIDE IT IS?

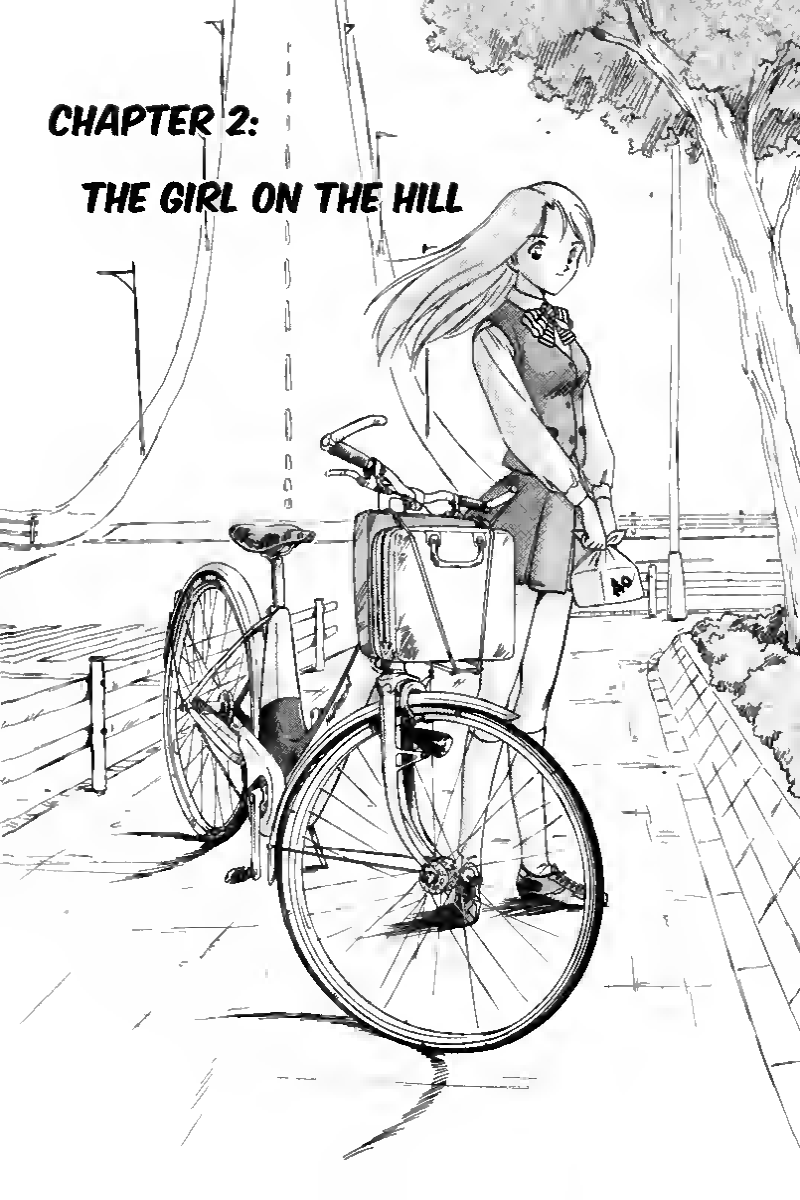
YOUR FATHER'S HEIGHT WAS 175 CM, SAME AS YOU RIGHT NOW
WHY... WHY DO YOU KNOW THAT?
THIS FRAME WAS MEANT TO FIT SOMEONE OF EXACTLY THAT HEIGHT
IN OTHER WORDS, SOMEONE LIKE YOU, HIS SON...

NOW THAT YOU'VE GROWN, YOU CAN RIDE IT PERFECTLY...
DAD I...
I'M 20 NOW...
NAMED ME AFTER, DAD
THE PLACE YOU
POST: TAKESHI RIDGE
SFX:BLUS
とく
とく
とく
TO TAKESHI RIDGE...
I'VE COME... DAD
SFX:CLACK

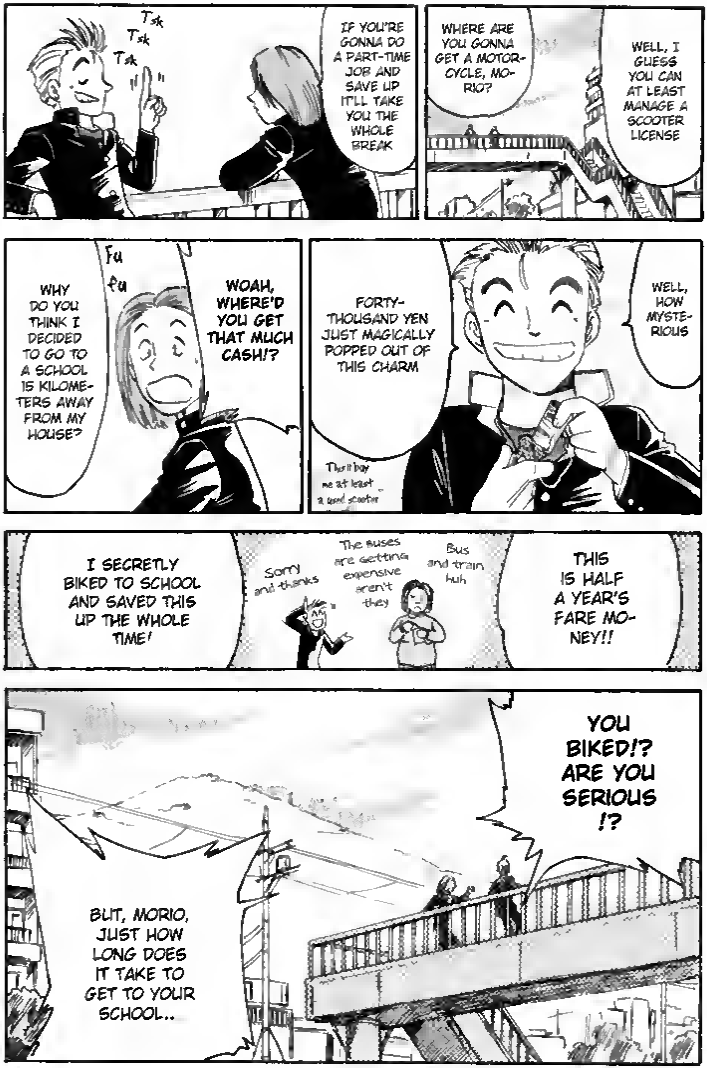
SFX.THUMP
ALRIGHTY
SFX.CLATTER
I'VE GOT A FLAT TIRE...
HEY MISTER
SFX.HISS
SFX.STRETCH
SFX.SPIN
PAT
IT'S ALREADY FIXED!
WOW
IS THE VERY FIRST THING YOU'LL SEE, ON NAMIKIBASHI STREET
アオバ自転車店
THIS SHOP
AOBA BICYCLE SHOP
PEUGE
LOOKS LIKE NEW!

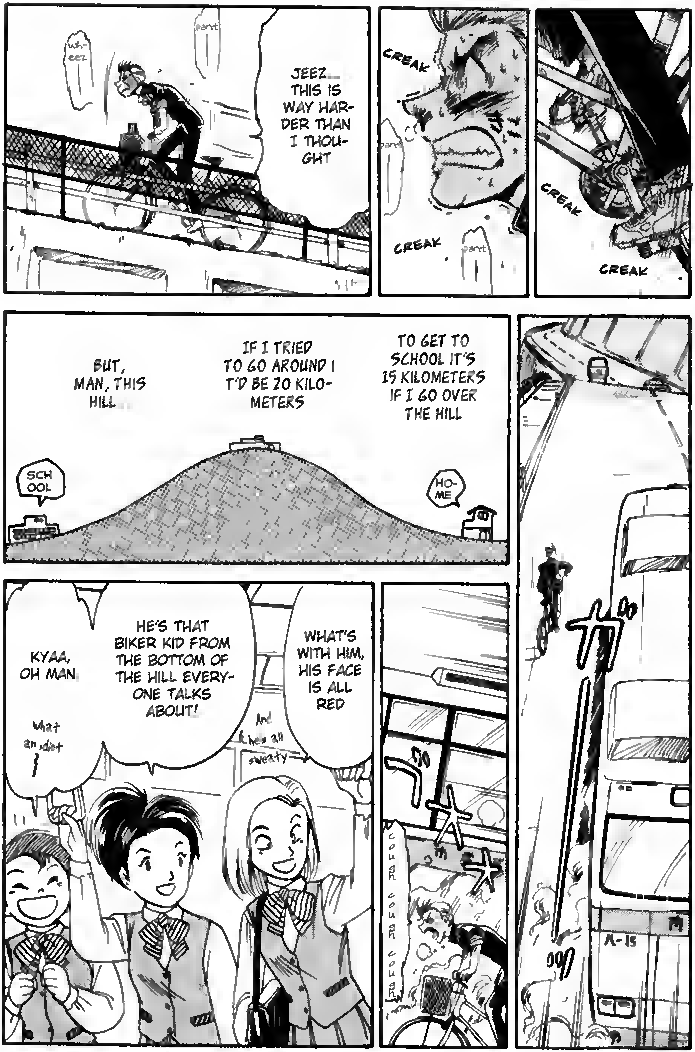
CHAPTER 2:

THE GIRL ON THE HILL



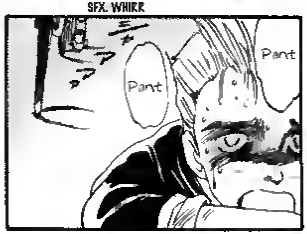
GO
NINJA
!!
WOAH
THAT YZF IS RACING WITH THAT NINJA!
SFX. ROAR
MORIO, BEFORE YOU GET A MOTOR-CYCLE YOU'VE GOTTA GET A LICENSE
FOR A GUY IT'S GOTTA BE A KAWA-SAKI
SO COOL
CAN'T WAIT 'TIL I'VE GOT MY OWN
AND THEN SUMMER BREAK'LL BE MOTOR MOTOR MOTOR-CYCLE!!
I KNOW THAT! THAT'S WHY I'M GONNA JUMP RIGHT ON IT AFTER MY BIRTH-DAY IN 7 MONTHS!

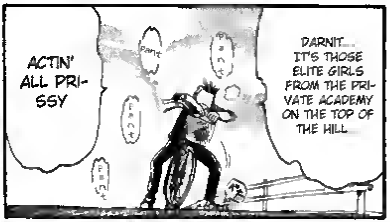

Tsk
Tsk
Tsk
IF YOU'RE GONNA DO A PART-TIME JOB AND SAVE UP IT'LL TAKE YOU THE WHOLE BREAK
WHERE ARE YOU GONNA GET A MOTOR-CYCLE, MORIO?
WELL, I GUESS YOU CAN AT LEAST MANAGE A SCOOTER LICENSE
Fu
Fu
WHY DO YOU THINK I DECIDED TO GO TO A SCHOOL 15 KILOME-TERS AWAY FROM MY HOUSE?
WOAH, WHERE'D YOU GET THAT MUCH CASH!?
FORTY-THOUSAND YEN JUST MAGICALLY POPPED OUT OF THIS CHARM
That'll buy me at least a used scooter
WELL, HOW MYSTE-RIOUS
I SECRETLY BIKED TO SCHOOL AND SAVED THIS UP THE WHOLE TIME!
Sorry and thanks
The buses are getting expensive aren't they
Bus and train huh
THIS IS HALF A YEAR'S FARE MO-NEY!!
BUT, MORIO, JUST HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GET TO YOUR SCHOOL..
YOU BIKED!? ARE YOU SERIOUS !?


JEEZ... THIS IS WAY HARDER THAN I THOUGHT
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
BUT, MAN, THIS HILL...
IF I TRIED TO GO AROUND I T'D BE 20 KILOMETERS
TO GET TO SCHOOL IT'S 15 KILOMETERS IF I GO OVER THE HILL
SCHOOL
HOME
KYAA, OH MAN.
HE'S THAT BIKER KID FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE HILL EVERYONE TALKS ABOUT!
WHAT'S WITH HIM, HIS FACE IS ALL RED
What an idiot!
He's all sweaty
A-15

SFX. VROOM

SFX. WHIER

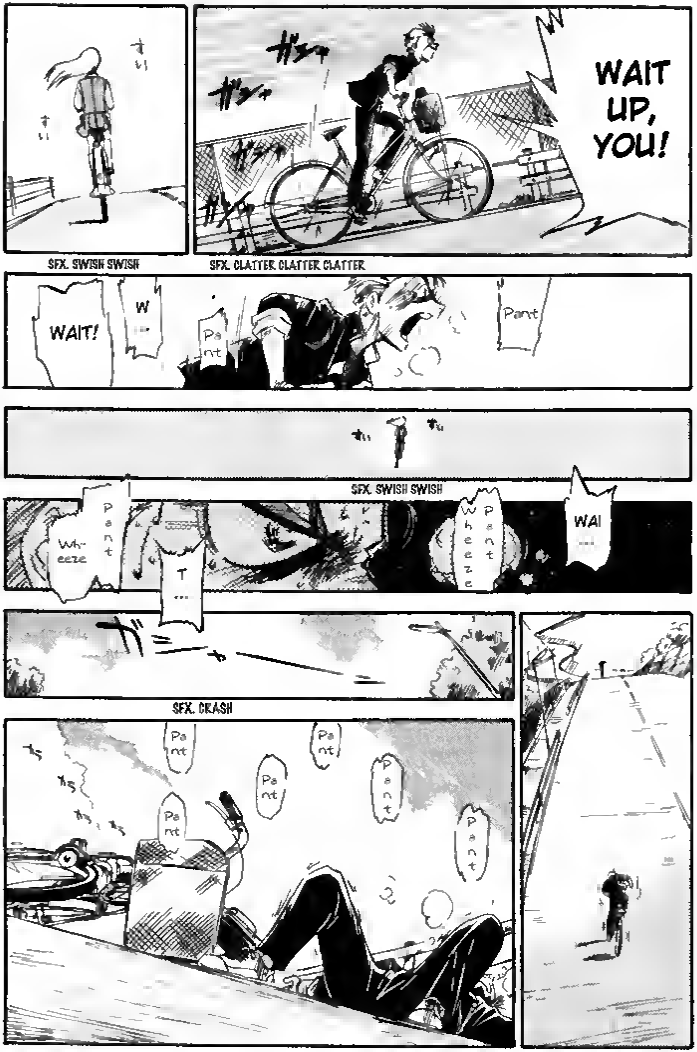




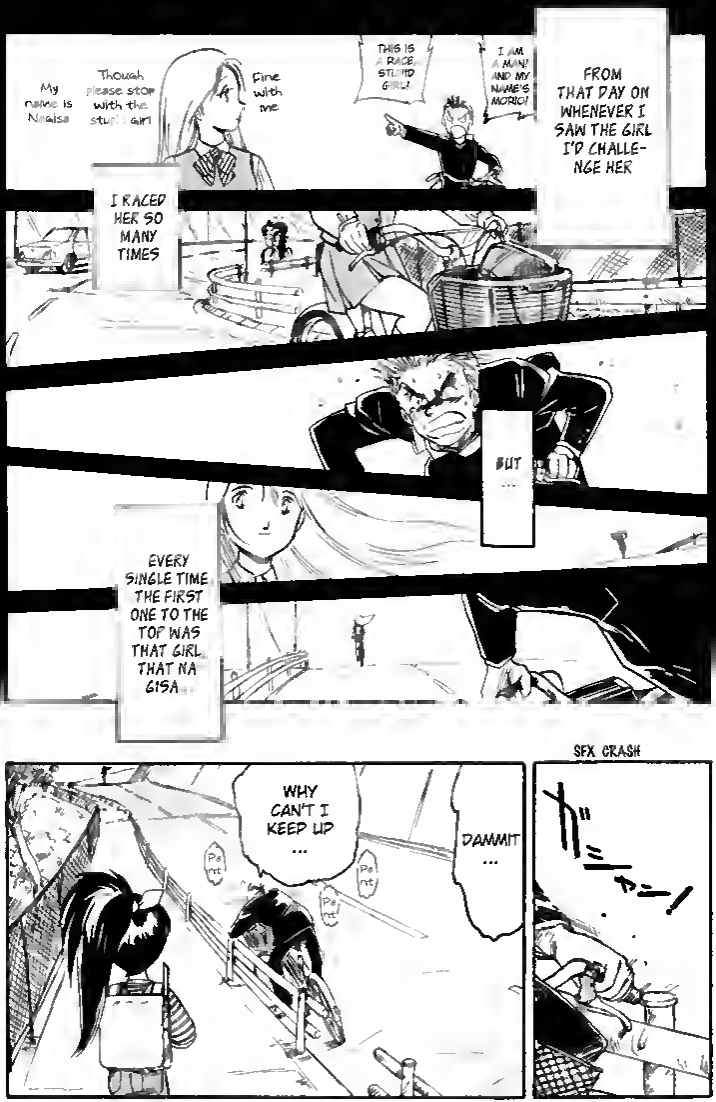
SFX. BLOW

AND SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE'S NOT EVEN BREAKIN' A SWEAT!
Pant
Pant
HOW THE HECK IS SHE CLIMBING THIS STEEP HILL THAT FAST!?
HUH... SO THERE'S GIRLS FROM THE ACADEMY THAT RIDE A BIKE TO SCHOOL TOO...
... WAIT!
Pant
Pant
H
EY
-!? SHE DROPPED SOMETHING...
SFX. TURN
*...
SFX. WHIRR
?
?
?
?
pant
pant
HEY! HEY YOU! YOU DROPPED SOMETHIN'!

NORMALLY, AS A MAN, WOULDN'T YOU PICK IT UP FOR ME ...?
.....
SFX. WHIRR
AH ...
AHH
WHAT THE HECK! WHAT'S WITH THAT ATTITUDE !!
WASN'T I NICE ENOUGH TO TELL YOU YOU DROPPED IT!!
IDIOT!!!

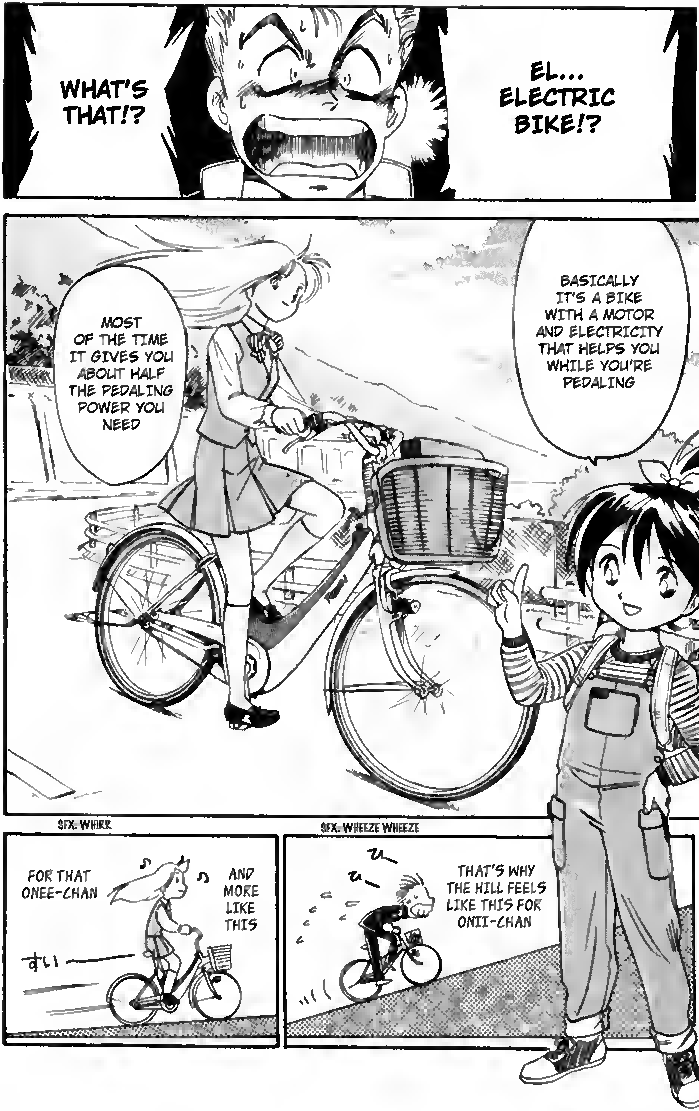

WAIT UP, YOU!
SFX. SWISH SWISH
SFX. CLATTER CLATTER CLATTER
WAIT!
W...
Pa nt
Pant
SFX. SWISH SWISH
Wh-eeze
Pant
T...
Wheeze
Pant
WAI...
SFX. CRASH
Pa nt
Pa nt
Pa nt
Pa nt
Pant
Pant

SFX: NOM NOM NOM NOM
HA HA HA HA
WHAT, YOU LOST TO A GIRL MORIO !?
AND IT WAS ONE OF THOSE PREPPIES FROM THAT ACADEMY !?
SERIOUSLY, HOW LAME
SHE WAS PROBABLY FROM THEIR BIKING CLUB ONE OF THOSE BIG HULKING CHICKS
BIG AS A GORILLA
NAH, SHE WASN'T
SHE WAS THIN
WITH LONG, FLOWING HAIR
HER FACE.
WELL, I MEAN, I GUESS IT WAS SORT A CUTE...
SFX: CLATTER
BUT, HER MANNERS WERE HORRIBLE!!
'NORMALLY WOULDN'T YOU PICK IT UP !?
WHO THE HECK DOES SHE THINK SHE IS!
Yeah
Yeah


My name is Nagisa
Though please stop with the stupid girl
Fine with me
THIS IS A RACE, STUPID GIRL!
I AM A MAN! AND MY NAME'S MORIO!
FROM THAT DAY ON WHENEVER I SAW THE GIRL I'D CHALLENGE HER
I RACED HER SO MANY TIMES
BUT ...
EVERY SINGLE TIME THE FIRST ONE TO THE TOP WAS THAT GIRL THAT NAGISA...
WHY CAN'T I KEEP UP ...
Pant
Pant
Pant
DAMMIT ...
SFX CRASH

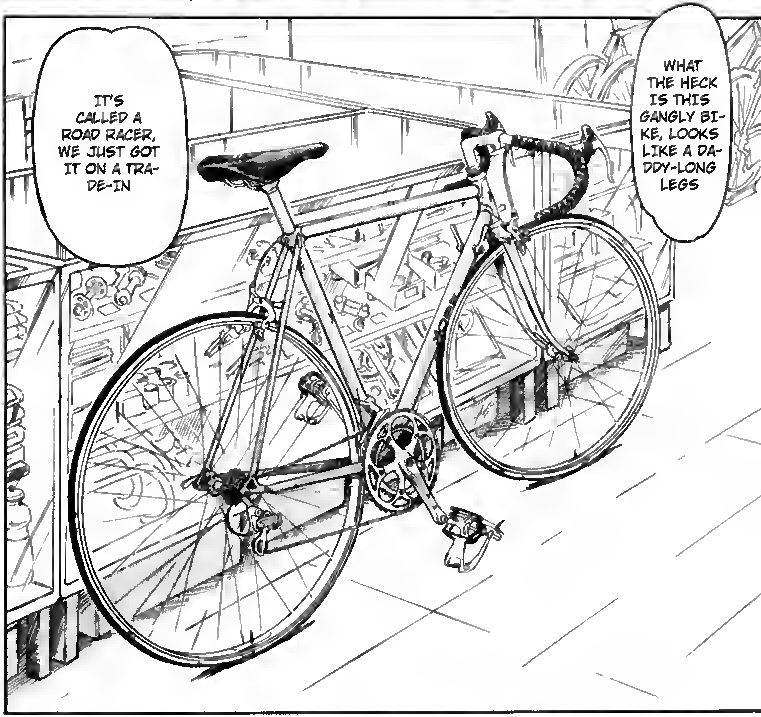
NO WAY YOU CAN WIN AGAINST THAT BIKE
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
WHYYYYYYY
UOOOOOOOO
WHAT'D YOU SAY, BRAT?
I'M NO BRAT!
MY NAME IS TOUGE AOBA ...
I guess this isn't really that kind of manga.
Or something?

SFX: DRAW


WHAT'S THAT!?
EL... ELECTRIC BIKE!?
BASICALLY IT'S A BIKE WITH A MOTOR AND ELECTRICITY THAT HELPS YOU WHILE YOU'RE PEDALING
MOST OF THE TIME IT GIVES YOU ABOUT HALF THE PEDALING POWER YOU NEED
SFX: WHIRR
FOR THAT ONEE-CHAN
AND MORE LIKE THIS
SFX: WHEEZE WHEEZE
THAT'S WHY THE HILL FEELS LIKE THIS FOR ONII-CHAN

I'LL SHOW YOU!
THAT DIRTY CHEATER!! SHE WAS U-SING SOME-THING LIKE THAT!!
OH MY
SFX. RAGE RAGE
AND THEN I'LL PASS YOU UP EASILY!!
I'M GONNA GET MY LICENSE AND THEN BUY A MOTORCYCLE
BEATING A BIKE WITH A MOTORCYCLE, ISN'T THAT A LITTLE TOO EASY?
WH-AT'D YOU SAY!
SFX. SHOCK
I D I O T
SFX. SKIN
WHY DON'T YOU SWING BY OUR SHOP?
SO, ONII-CHAN
WOULD WINNING AN UNEVEN RACE LIKE THAT MEAN ANYTHING
...FOR A GUY?

オオバ自転車店
PEUGEOT

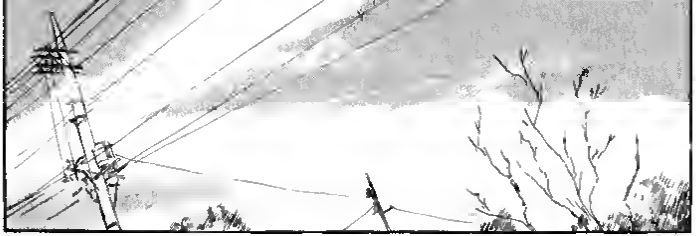

WHAT THE HECK IS THIS GANGLY BIKE, LOOKS LIKE A DADDY-LONG LEGS
IT'S CALLED A ROAD RACER, WE JUST GOT IT ON A TRADE-IN

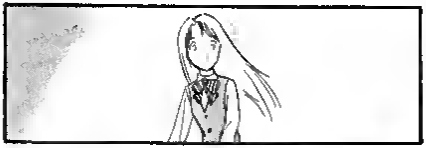
THE TIRES ARE SKINNY
I'd probably crash every time I tried to turn a corner.
WELL, WELL
FOR NOW HOW ABOUT YOU RIDE IT AND SEE

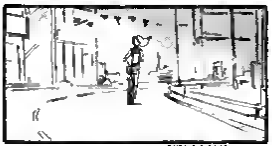
WOAH
SFX:SPINNNNNNN
OHHH
SFX:SPIN
AWE-SOME! IT'S SO FAST!!
WHAT THE HECK IS THIS
SFX:WOOSH
IT'S FLOWING BY ME SO FAST!
THE WIND, THE WIND, THE WIND

IT REALLY IS A DADDY LONG LEGS!
MAN, THIS THING'S AWE-SOME
WEL-COME BACK, HOW WAS IT?
HOW ABOUT IT? RIGHT NOW I CAN GIVE YOU A GREAT SALE ON IT...
ISN'T IT? IT'S OUR OWN SPECIAL ROAD RACER
GIANT TEXT FORTY-THOUSAND
よんまん
TIRES AND A BELL ARE INCLU-DED
FORTY-THOU-SAND YEN!
SFX.BLOW
IT'S A HUGE BARGAIN
はは
YEP, EVEN THOUGH IT'S USED A NEW ONE WOULD RUN YOU TWO-HUNDRED-THOUSAND
WITH THAT WE WON'T MAKE ANY-THING
A AOBA
HOW DOES THAT SOUND!?
SFX.HAHAHA

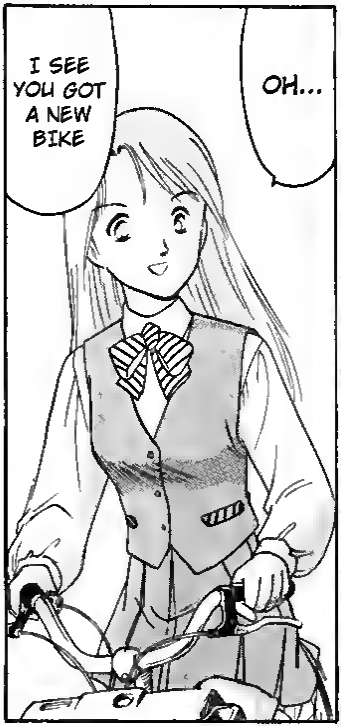
SFX: BADUMP
NO...
NO! THIS MONEY IS...
THIS MONEY IS FOR MY MOTOR-CYCLE...
PLEASE DADDY
MORIO ONII-CHAN SAYS HE'S GOT A GIRL HE JUST HAS TO WIN A RACE WITH
PLEASE, SELL ONII-CHAN THE BIKE FOR FORTY-THOUS-AND
SFX: HMM
SFX: BADUMP
I'VE GOT TO DO THIS, AS A MAN!!
どん
I CAN'T CHICKEN OUT NOW !!
SFX: CLENCH

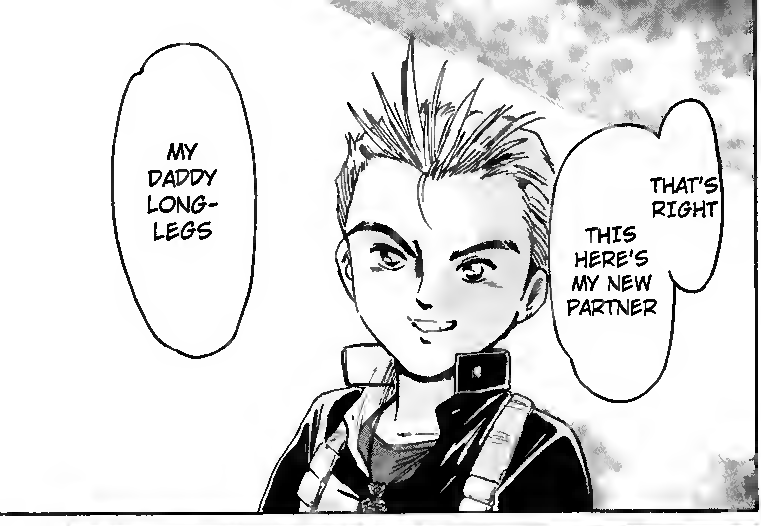


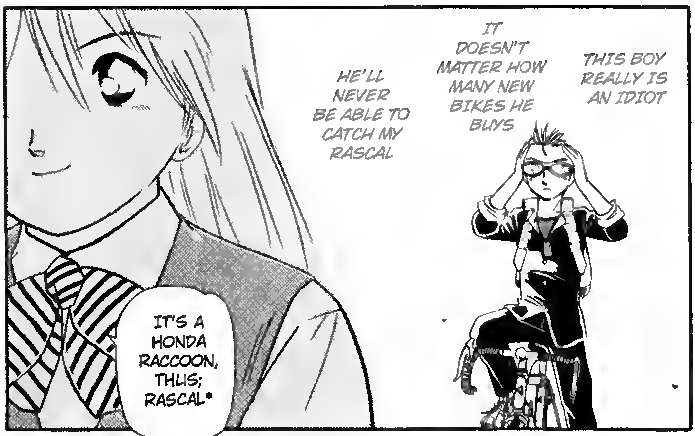




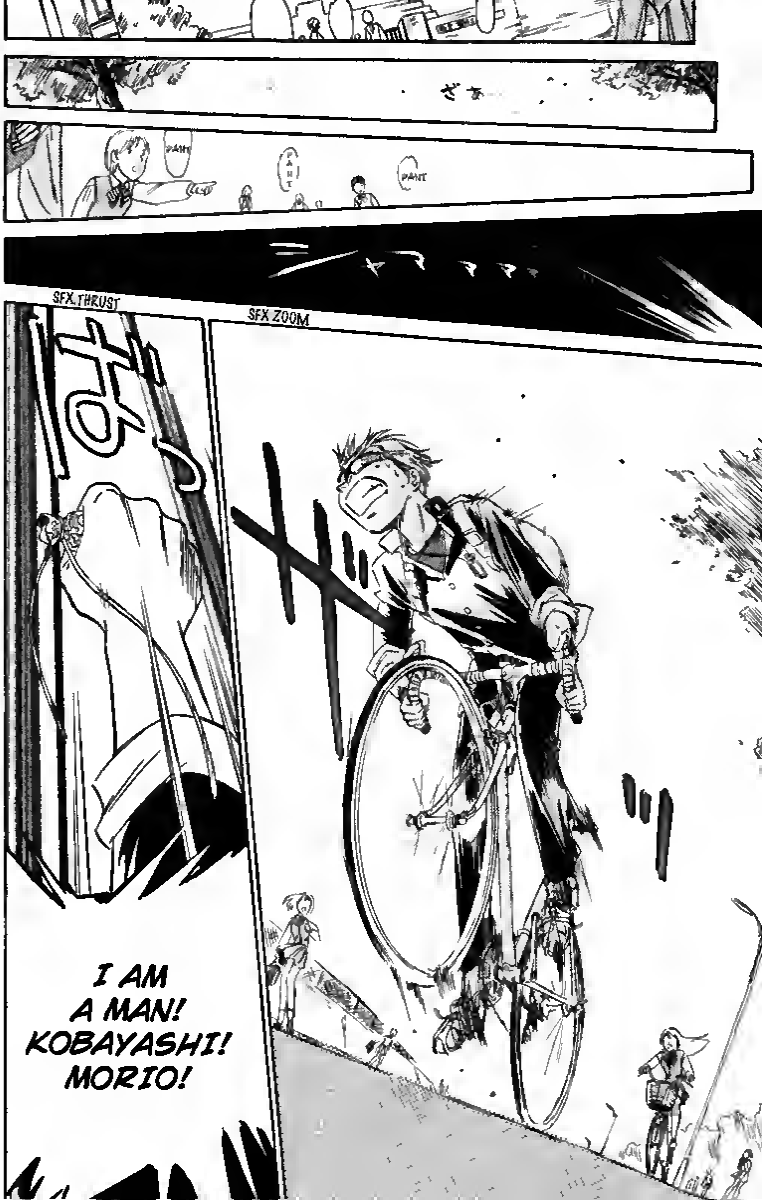
SFX.CREAK





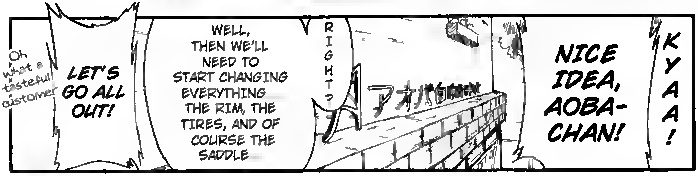

HE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO CATCH MY RASCAL
IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MANY NEW BIKES HE BUYS
THIS BOY REALLY IS AN IDIOT
IT'S A HONDA RACCOON, THIS; RASCAL*

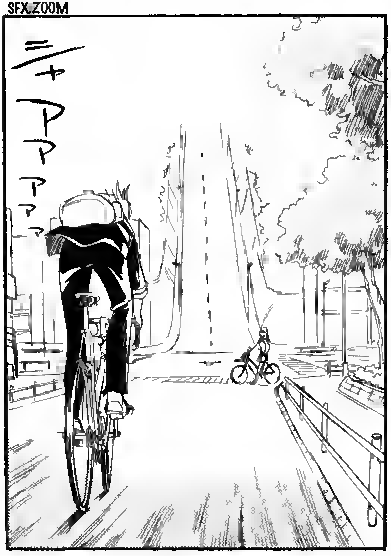
* RASCAL IS A CLASSIC RACCOON NAME IN JAPANESE

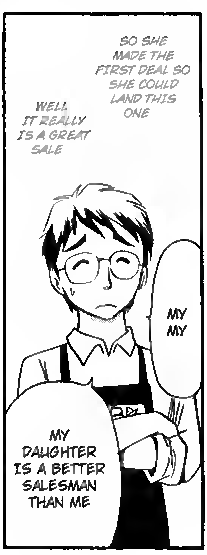

ざぁ
PANT
PANT
PANT
SFX THRUST
SFX ZOOM
ぜぇっ
I AM
A MAN!
KOBAYASHI!
MORIO!

LOOKS LIKE
THIS ONE'S MINE !!
SFX:PANT
SFX:ZOOM
Wahahaha Catch ya later
THAT...
THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE!
MY RASCAL HAS...
SFX:MUR.MUR

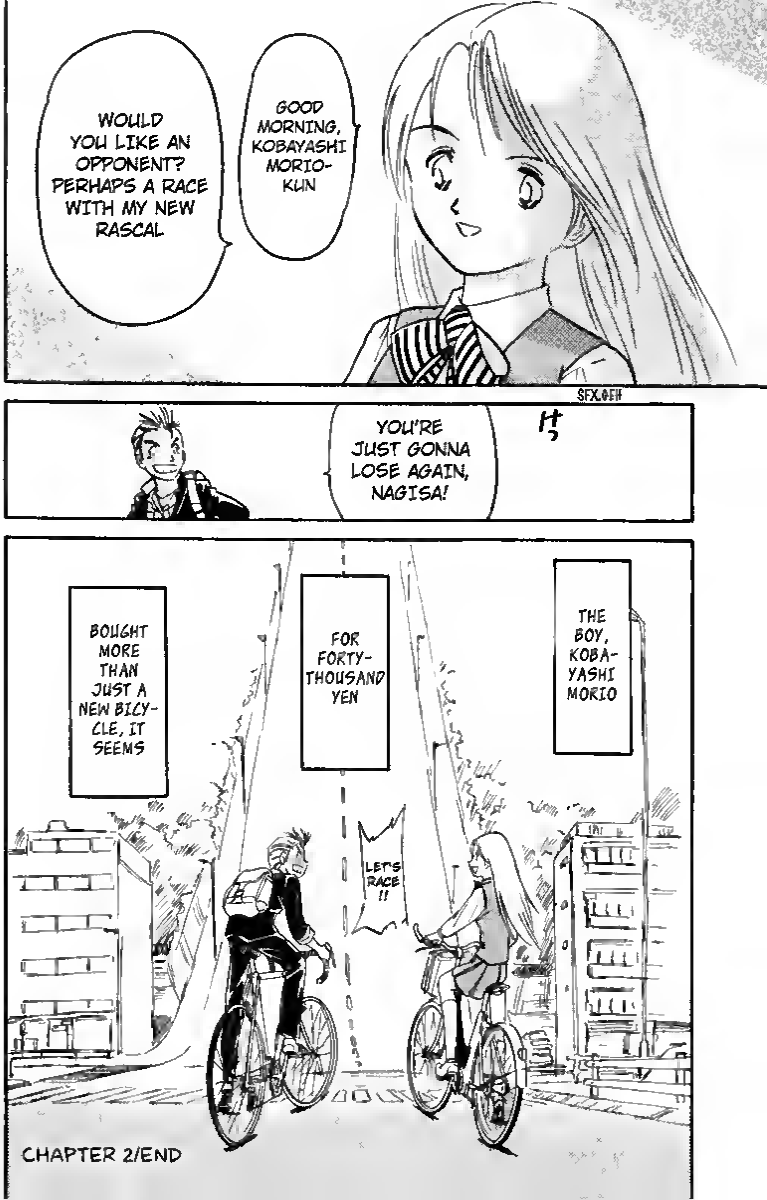
IT'S SO FRUS-TRATING!
FRUS-TRATING, FRUST-RATING
SFX: HMM
うむ
IT MUST BE HORRIBLE AS A GIRL, LOSING TO A GUY LIKE THAT
CHANGE FRAMES?
.....
PLEASE DO SOMETHING, IT WAS YOU WHO SOLD ME MY RASCAL IN THE FIRST PLACE, AOBA-CHAN
DON'T YOU THINK, AOBA-CHAN!
I'VE GOT TO BE ABLE TO GO FASTER!
CHANGE FRAMES?
YEP! THE WEAK POINT OF THAT ELECTRIC BIKE IS HOW HEAVY THE FRAME IS!
OR, YOU COULD SAY...


Oh what a tasteful customer
LET'S GO ALL OUT!
WELL, THEN WE'LL NEED TO START CHANGING EVERYTHING THE RIM, THE TIRES, AND OF COURSE THE SADDLE
RIGHT?
NICE IDEA, AOBA-CHAN!
KYAA!

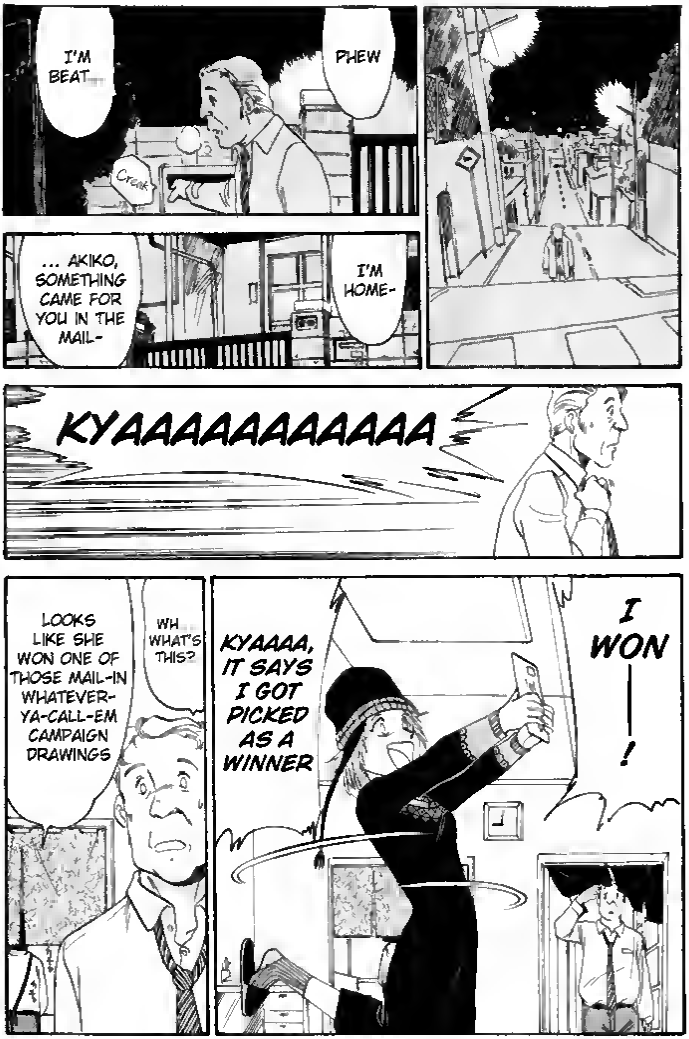



SO SHE MADE THE FIRST DEAL SO SHE COULD LAND THIS ONE
WELL IT REALLY IS A GREAT SALE
MY MY
MY DAUGHTER IS A BETTER SALESMAN THAN ME

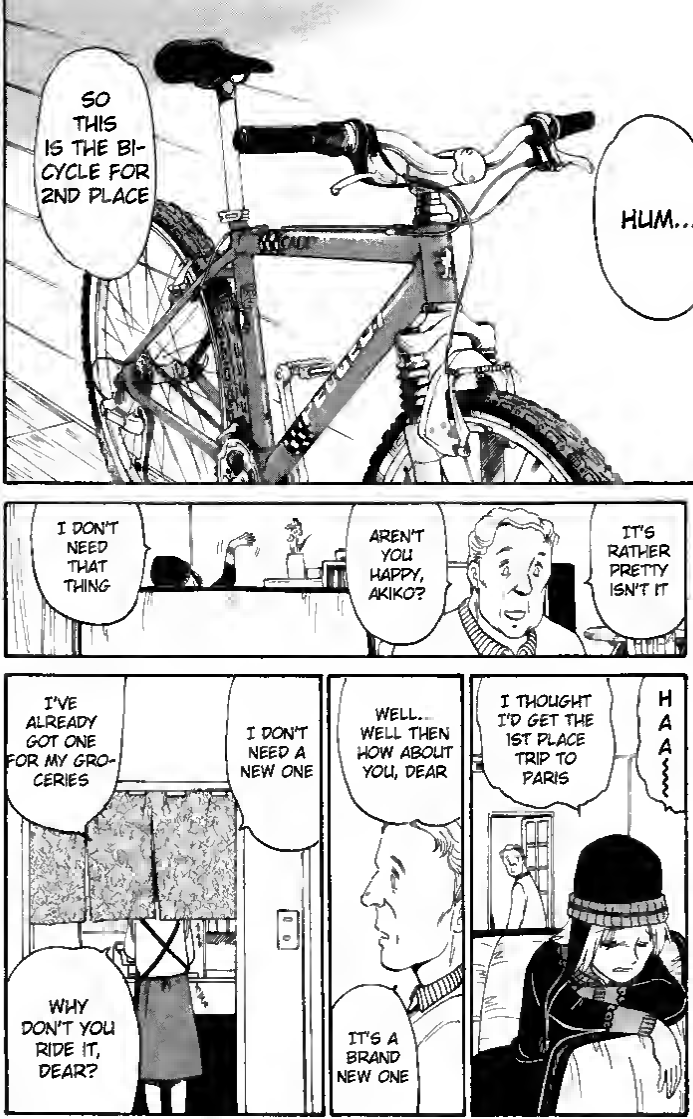
* LITERALLY 'AN ONI'S GOLDEN CLUB', THE SAYING REFERS TO GIVING SOMETHING THAT'S ALREADY STRONG AN EVEN STRONGER WEAPON


GOOD MORNING, KOBAYASHI MORIO-KUN
WOULD YOU LIKE AN OPPONENT? PERHAPS A RACE WITH MY NEW RASCAL
SFX.0EH
YOU'RE JUST GONNA LOSE AGAIN, NAGISA!
HE'S
THE BOY, KOBA-YASHI MORIO
FOR FORTY-THOUSAND YEN
BOUGHT MORE THAN JUST A NEW BICY-CLE, IT SEEMS
LET'S RACE !!
CHAPTER 2/END

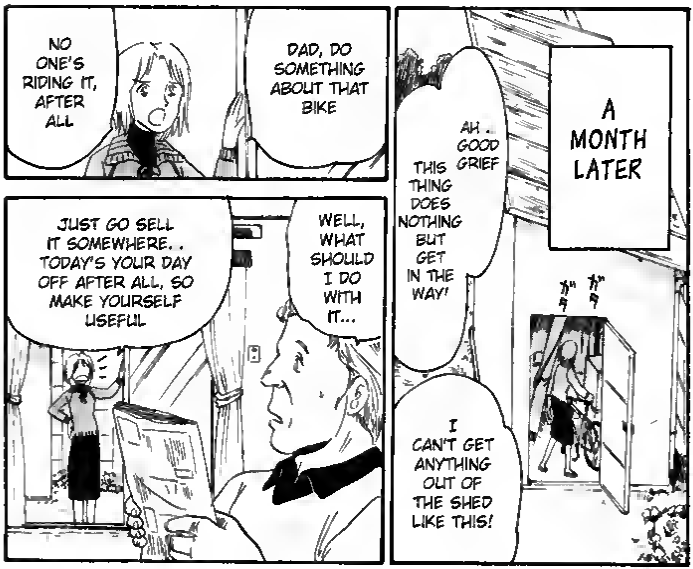
CHAPTER 3
A SMALL MEDAL

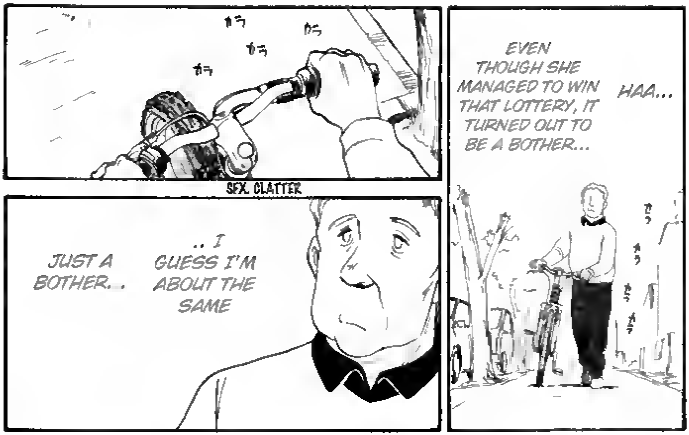

I'M BEAT...
Creak
PHEW
... AKIKO, SOMETHING CAME FOR YOU IN THE MAIL-
I'M HOME-
KYAAAAAAAAAAA
LOOKS LIKE SHE WON ONE OF THOSE MAIL-IN WHATEVER-YA-CALL-EM CAMPAIGN DRAWINGS
WH WHAT'S THIS?
KYAAAA, IT SAYS I GOT PICKED AS A WINNER
I WON——!

THE TRICOLOR FLAGS OF PARIS ARE CALLING TO ME
LALALA
SFX. SHOCK
SAYS HERE YOU GOT THE 2ND PRIZE. A BRAND NEW BICYCLE
HUM...
IWATA-SAN, DE-LIVERY
A BIKE!?
SFX. RING RING


SO THIS IS THE BI-CYCLE FOR 2ND PLACE
HUM...
I DON'T NEED THAT THING
AREN'T YOU HAPPY, AKIKO?
IT'S RATHER PRETTY ISN'T IT
I'VE ALREADY GOT ONE FOR MY GRO-CERIES
I DON'T NEED A NEW ONE
WHY DON'T YOU RIDE IT, DEAR?
WELL.. WELL THEN HOW ABOUT YOU, DEAR
IT'S A BRAND NEW ONE
I THOUGHT I'D GET THE 1ST PLACE TRIP TO PARIS
HAAA

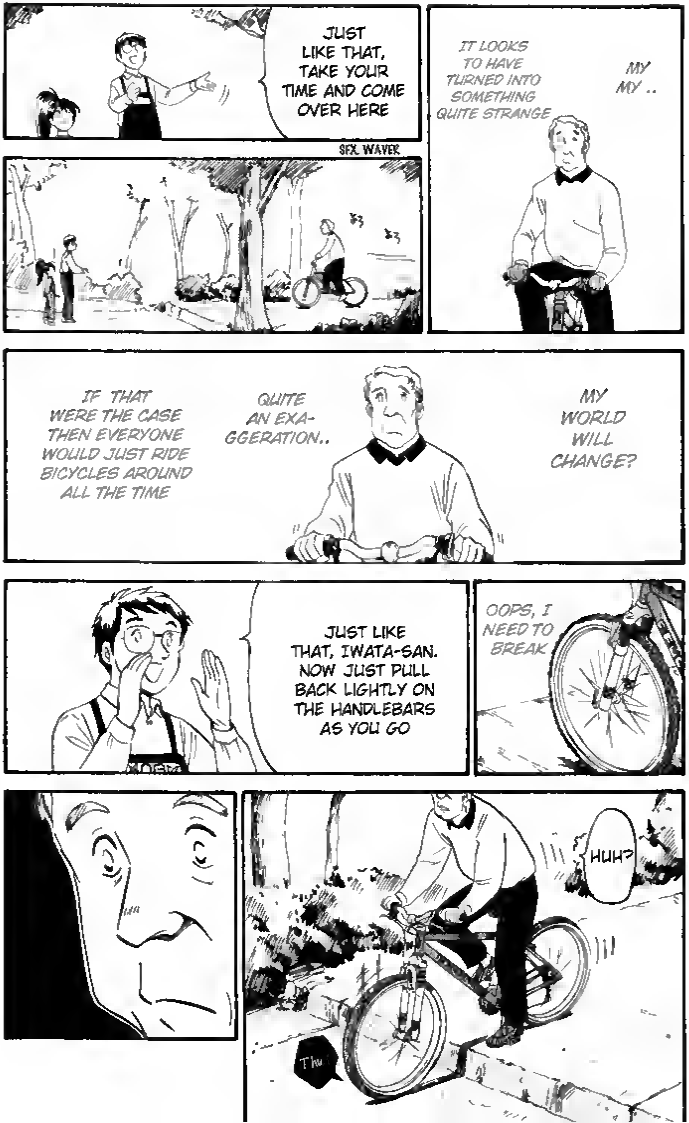
IT'LL GET IN THE WAY IF YOU LEAVE IT
WELL THEN PUT IT IN THE SHED, AT LEAST
I'VE NEVER REALLY RODE A SPORTY BIKE LIKE THIS BEFORE...
WELL... I...
SFX. CLATTER

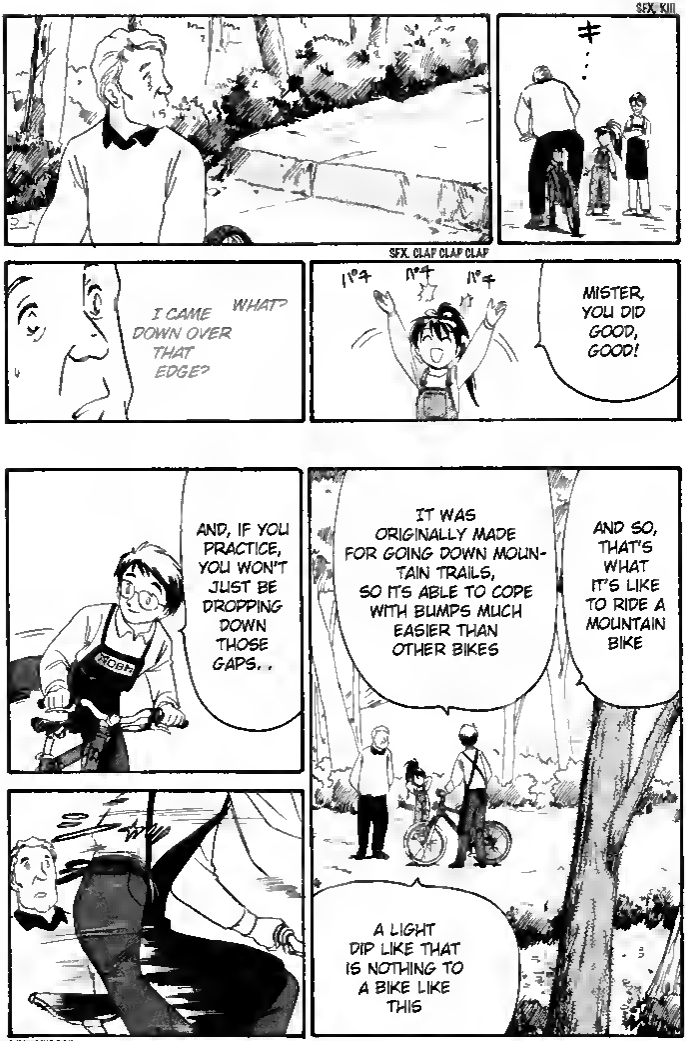

NO ONE'S RIDING IT, AFTER ALL
DAD, DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT BIKE
JUST GO SELL IT SOMEWHERE.. TODAY'S YOUR DAY OFF AFTER ALL, SO MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL
WELL, WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH IT...
A MONTH LATER
AH. GOOD GRIEF THIS THING DOES NOTHING BUT GET IN THE WAY!
I CAN'T GET ANYTHING OUT OF THE SHED LIKE THIS!
SFX. RATTLE

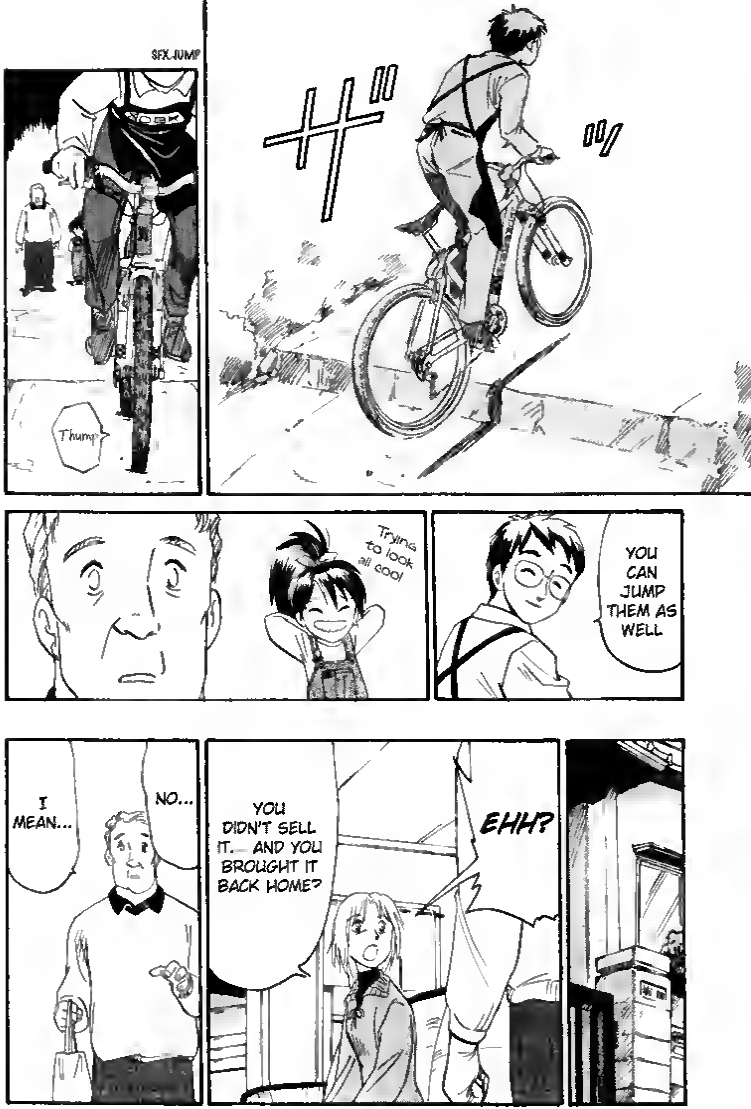

SFX. CLATTER
JUST A BOTHER..
..I GUESS I'M ABOUT THE SAME
EVEN THOUGH SHE MANAGED TO WIN THAT LOTTERY, IT TURNED OUT TO BE A BOTHER...
HAA...

アオバ自転車店
COULD I POSSIBLY SELL THIS BIKE HERE?
EXCUSE ME
SINCE IT ARRIVED AT OUR HOUSE ITS JUST BEEN STOWED AWAY IN THE SHED
IT WASN'T, NOT FOR A SECOND
QUITE NEW. IT DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE BEEN RIDDEN AT ALL, IN FACT.
THIS IS..

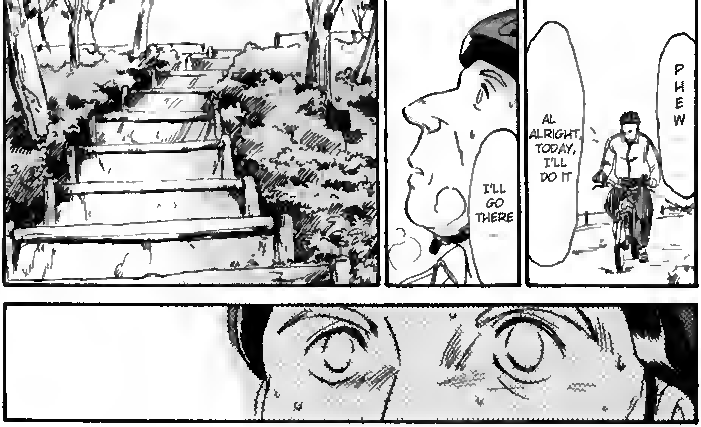
THAT'S SUCH A WASTE
EHHH, WHY?
IN YOUR SHED?
MISTER, WHY DON'T YOU JUST RIDE IT?
HAHA, LITTLE MISS
I'M SORRY, BUT FROM THE TIME I WAS BORN I NEVER RODE A SPORTY MODEL LIKE THIS, I GUESS THAT'S ALL I CAN SAY
WELL, WHY DON'T YOU AT LEAST GIVE IT A TRY IWATA-SAN, BEFORE PARTING WITH IT
JUST IN THE PARK OUT FRONT
PERHAPS YOUR WORLD WILL CHANGE, JUST A LITTLE BIT


JUST LIKE THAT, TAKE YOUR TIME AND COME OVER HERE
SFX: WAVER
IT LOOKS TO HAVE TURNED INTO SOMETHING QUITE STRANGE
MY MY ..
IF THAT WERE THE CASE THEN EVERYONE WOULD JUST RIDE BICYCLES AROUND ALL THE TIME
QUITE AN EXA-GGERATION..
MY WORLD WILL CHANGE?
JUST LIKE THAT, IWATA-SAN. NOW JUST PULL BACK LIGHTLY ON THE HANDLEBARS AS YOU GO
OOPS, I NEED TO BREAK
HUH?
Thu

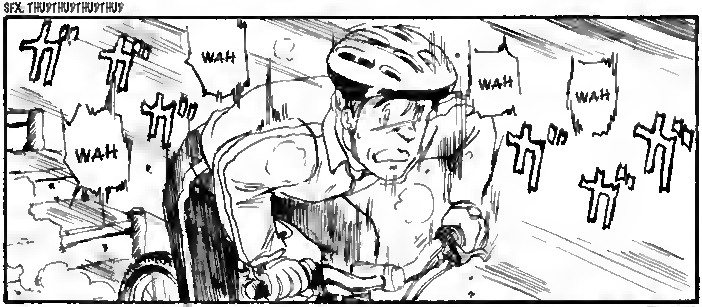

SFX. KUI
SFX. CLAP CLAP CLAP
I CAME DOWN OVER THAT EDGE?
WHAT?
MISTER, YOU DID GOOD, GOOD!
AND, IF YOU PRACTICE, YOU WON'T JUST BE DROPPING DOWN THOSE GAPS. .
IT WAS ORIGINALLY MADE FOR GOING DOWN MOUNTAIN TRAILS, SO ITS ABLE TO COPE WITH BUMPS MUCH EASIER THAN OTHER BIKES
AND SO, THAT'S WHAT IT'S LIKE TO RIDE A MOUNTAIN BIKE
A LIGHT DIP LIKE THAT IS NOTHING TO A BIKE LIKE THIS
SFX. WHOOSH


SFX: JUMP
Thump
Trying to look all cool
YOU CAN JUMP THEM AS WELL
I MEAN...
NO...
YOU DIDN'T SELL IT... AND YOU BROUGHT IT BACK HOME?
EHH?

YOU'RE GOING TO RIDE IT?
YOU MEAN
AND GLOVES
IT'S A HELMET
WHAT'S IN THAT BAG?
?
SFX. RUSTLE
GIVE IT UP, OLD MEN CAN'T RIDE MOUNTAIN BIKES LIKE THAT
YOU'VE GOTTA BE JOKING
あはは
SFX. AHAHAHA
SFX. CLUNK CLUNK
OH
OH
SFX. CLUNK CLUNK

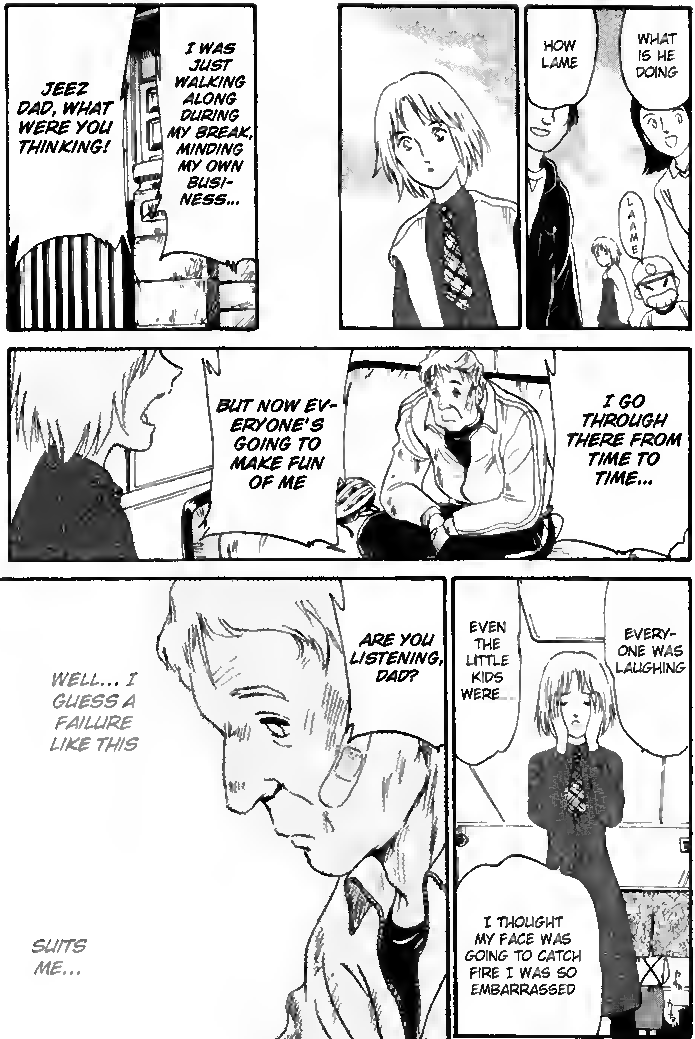


SFX. THUPTHUPTHUPTHUP

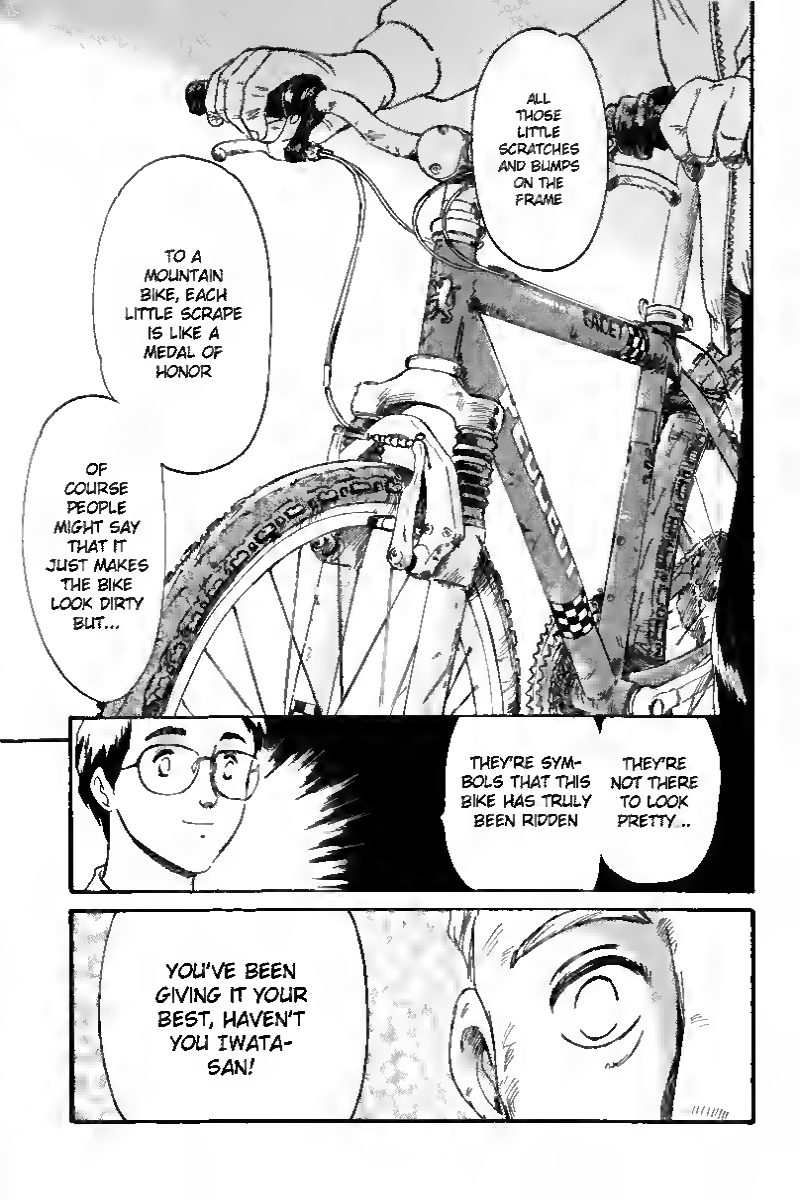


SFX. WHUMP

SFX. TIKIP TIKIP

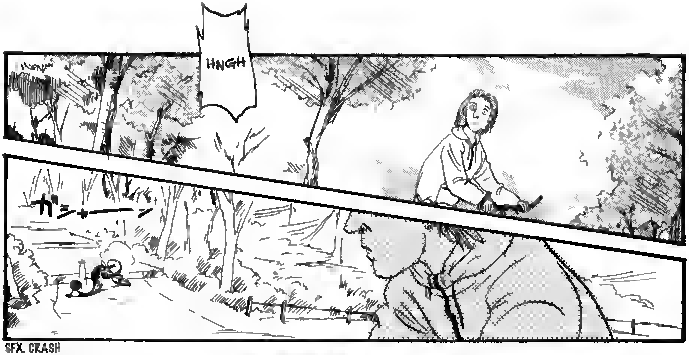

JEEZ DAD, WHAT WERE YOU THINKING!
I WAS JUST WALKING ALONG DURING MY BREAK, MINDING MY OWN BUSINESS...
HOW LAME
WHAT IS HE DOING
LAAME
I GO THROUGH THERE FROM TIME TO TIME...
BUT NOW EVERYONE'S GOING TO MAKE FUN OF ME
EVERYONE WAS LAUGHING
EVEN THE LITTLE KIDS WERE...
I THOUGHT MY FACE WAS GOING TO CATCH FIRE I WAS SO EMBARRASSED
ARE YOU LISTENING, DAD?
WELL... I GUESS A FAILURE LIKE THIS
SUITS ME...

WELL, IWATA-SAN, WELCOME
AND SO NOW I'M BACK TRYING TO SELL IT AGAIN...
MY MY
CONGRA-TULATIONS IWATA-SAN
HMM...
UH.. UM, ACT-UALLY... THIS BIKE...
MED... ALS?
EH...?
YOU'VE GOT QUITE A FEW MEDALS THERE

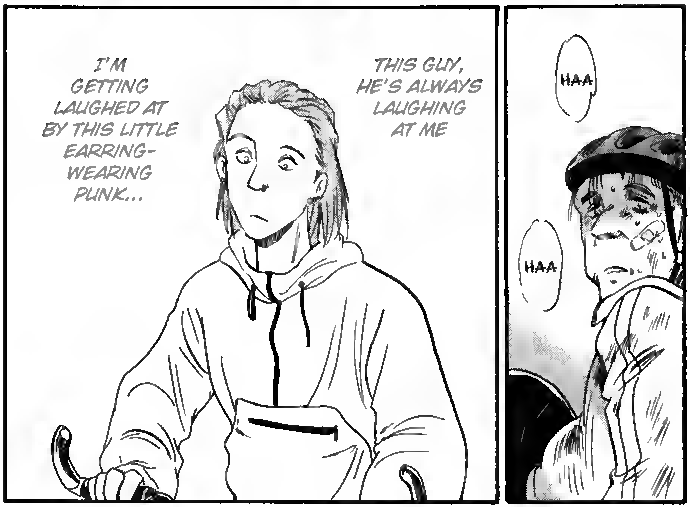

ALL THOSE LITTLE SCRATCHES AND BUMPS ON THE FRAME
TO A MOUNTAIN BIKE, EACH LITTLE SCRAPE IS LIKE A MEDAL OF HONOR
OF COURSE PEOPLE MIGHT SAY THAT IT JUST MAKES THE BIKE LOOK DIRTY BUT...
THEY'RE NOT THERE TO LOOK PRETTY..
THEY'RE SYM-BOLS THAT THIS BIKE HAS TRULY BEEN RIDDEN
YOU'VE BEEN GIVING IT YOUR BEST, HAVEN'T YOU IWATA-SAN!

HE SOUNDS LIKE A GRADE SCHOOL TEACHER
I'VE BEEN GIVING IT MY BEST, HE SAID?
WON'T CHANGE ANYTHING
DOING SOMETHING LIKE THIS
THAT'S RIGHT!
WHY AM I HERE AGAIN!?
EVEN SO...
ｶｺｰ!!

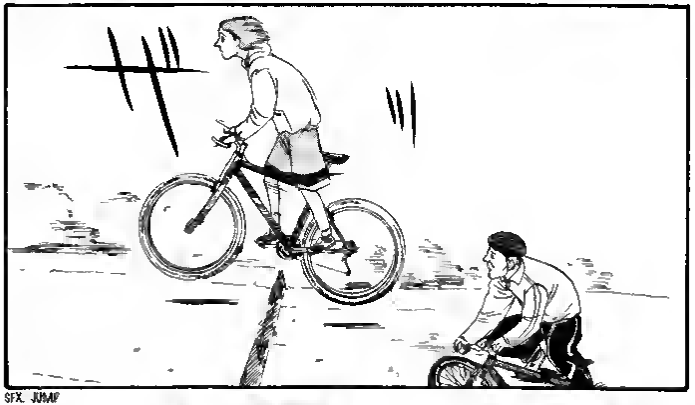
ガシャーン
SFX: CRASH
ドン
SFX: BUMP
HMPH
I THOUGHT I WAS PULLING UP JUST RIGHT...
S... STRANGE
OWW
ガシャ
SFX: CRASH
ドシャ
SFX: CRASH
HNGH
HMPH


HNGH
SFX. CRASH

HAA
HAA
HAA
WHAT'RE YOU DOIN, OLD MAN?
SFX. CREAK


I'M GETTING LAUGHED AT BY THIS LITTLE EARRING-WEARING PUNK...
THIS GUY, HE'S ALWAYS LAUGHING AT ME
HAA
HAA

SFX. WHOOSH

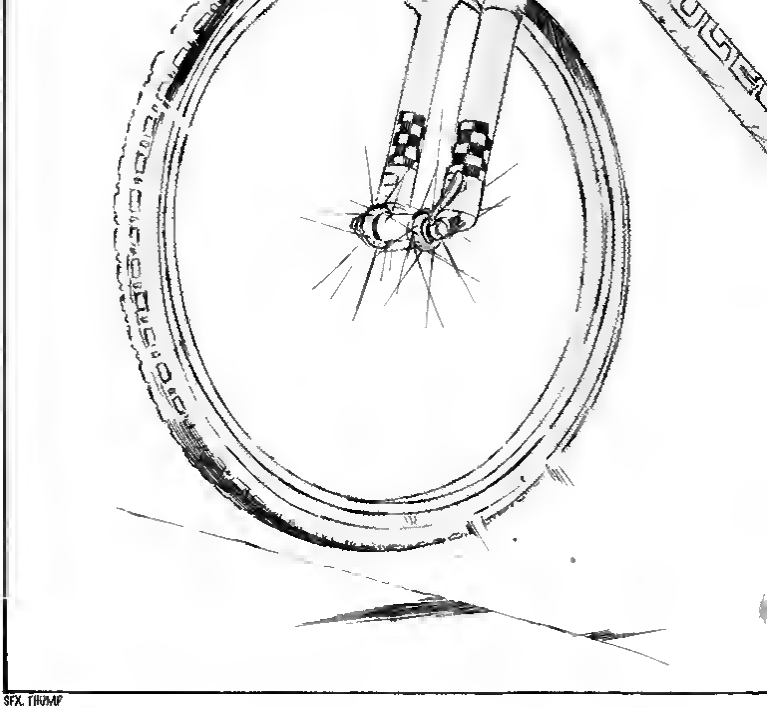


SFX. JUMP

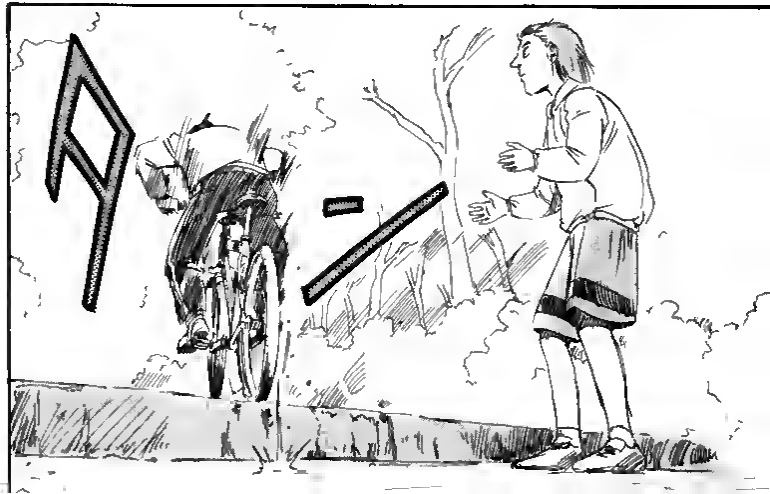
JUST HOW ON EARTH DO YOU DO IT!?
I... I'M BEGGING YOU, TEACH ME HOW!
SFX. PASH
EVEN IF YOU ASK ME TO TEACH YOU...
HOW? IT'S NOT LIKE I THINK ABOUT IT WHEN I DO IT
HUH?
DOING SOMETHING LIKE THIS WON'T CHANGE ANY-THING
THAT'S RIGHT...
PULL L.L.L
YOU GOTTA PULL BACK
PULL BACK
NO NO
PLEASE!!

CERTAINLY ISN'T GOING TO SUDDENLY CHANGE...
THE WORLD

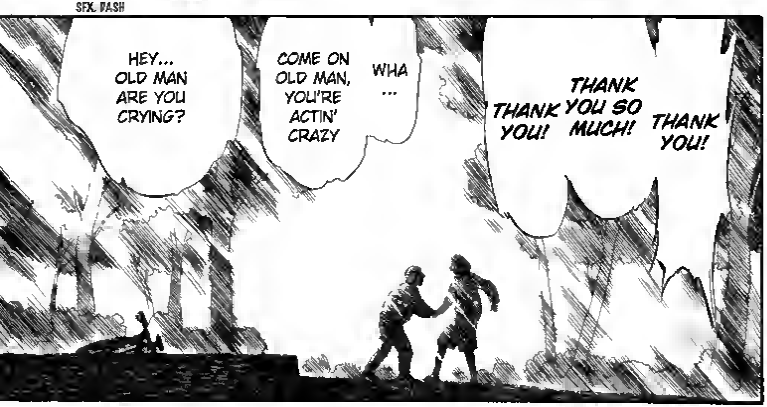
YEAH, JUST LIKE THAT!
EVEN SO, I...



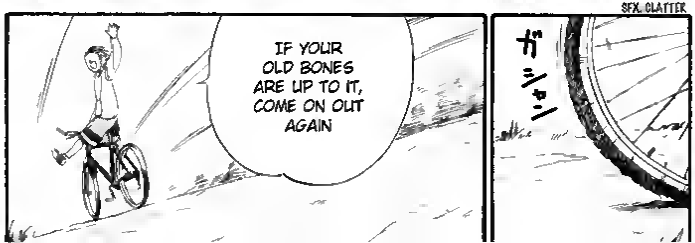
SFX. THUMP

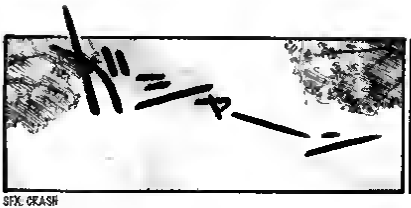


YOU DID IT, OLD MAN!
♫ HYUU
SFX: DASH


HEY... OLD MAN ARE YOU CRYING?
COME ON OLD MAN, YOU'RE ACTIN' CRAZY
WHA ...
THANK YOU! THANK YOU SO MUCH! THANK YOU!

SFX: CLATTER


IF YOUR OLD BONES ARE UP TO IT, COME ON OUT AGAIN
ガシャン



Chapter 3/End

CHAPTER 4

THE MILITARY TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT OF DAYBREAK

Haa
Haa
Haa
SFX(up): Step step step
HE'S COM-ING
HE'S COM-ING
SFX(up): Heartbeat
SFX: (up): Step step
HE'S HERE !!
Haa
Haa
Haa
TODAY'S THE DAY KANNA!
ONE.. TWO..
SFX: Heartbeat
HUH? MISS?
SA..

*Note. Ojou is used to refer to girls either politely or to refer to girls of higher status than the speaker
It is also used as in this case, to be respectful to the daughter of your boss.

SINCE WE'RE HIGH SCHOOLERS NOW WE JUST HAVE TO GET PART TIME JOBS!
IT'S SUPPOSED TO PAY 850 YEN AN HOUR!
AH, I WANT TO WORK HERE!
HUH, HEY HEY CHECK OUT THIS STORE!!
I GUESS I WANT TO WORK SOMEWHERE WITH COOL UNIFORMS
HMM
WHAT'RE YOU THINKING OF DOING, KANNA?
SFX. Heartbeat
どきどき
THIS IS THE PLACE OWNED BY MAEDA-KUN'S FAMILY, THE ONE FROM THE TRACK CLUB!?
THERE'S NO WAY YOU SHOULD BE WORKING AS A WAITRESS ANYWAY!
WHAT? I FOUND IT FIRST!
HAVEN'T YOU HEARD, MAEDA-KUN SOMETIMES HELPS OUT THERE ON SUNDAYS
KYAA, MAYBE I SHOULD WORK THERE
YEAH THAT ITALIAN PLACE IN FRONT OF THE STATION

AN ITALIAN RESTAURANT.. HUH..
EVEN HIS FAMILY'S STORE IS COOL
HE'S SO COOL
HAA..
SFX. Clink
SO COULD I GET YOUR STAMP*?
YEAH, THE SCHOOL WON'T LET ME UNLESS YOU SIGN THIS FORM
A PART TIME JOOOOB?
WHAAT?
WHAT'D YOU SAY!
NO WAY! IF I HELP OUT HERE THERE'S NO WAY I'LL MAKE ANY MONEY!
IF YOU'VE GOT THAT MUCH FREE TIME WHY DON'T YOU TRY HELPING OUT HERE AT YOUR OWN HOME!
SHUT YER MOUTH!

*Note: Japanese families sign for things like packages and permission slips with a small red circular stamp bearing the family name

三鷹新聞
スポーツ
SFX. Whomp
SFX. Spin SFX.
Rustle rustle
SFX. Whaaah
DID YOU CATCH THAT, PART-TIMERS?
AND THAT'S HOW IT'S DONE
SO FAST...
I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD SHOW THEM SOMETHING OF THAT LEVEL RIGHT OFF THE BAT
HEY HEY TERAO
I COULD-N'T EVEN TELL WHAT SHE WAS DOING
UH... NO, IT WAS WAY TOO FAST
AFTER 10 YEARS OF THIS I'M SURE ANYONE COULD BE AS FAST AS ME
SHE'S FASTER THAN ANYONE ELSE AT THIS HERE SEN-BAITEN*
I MEAN KANNA-CHAN'S BEEN DOING THIS FOR YEARS AND YEARS!
MIGHTY COMPE

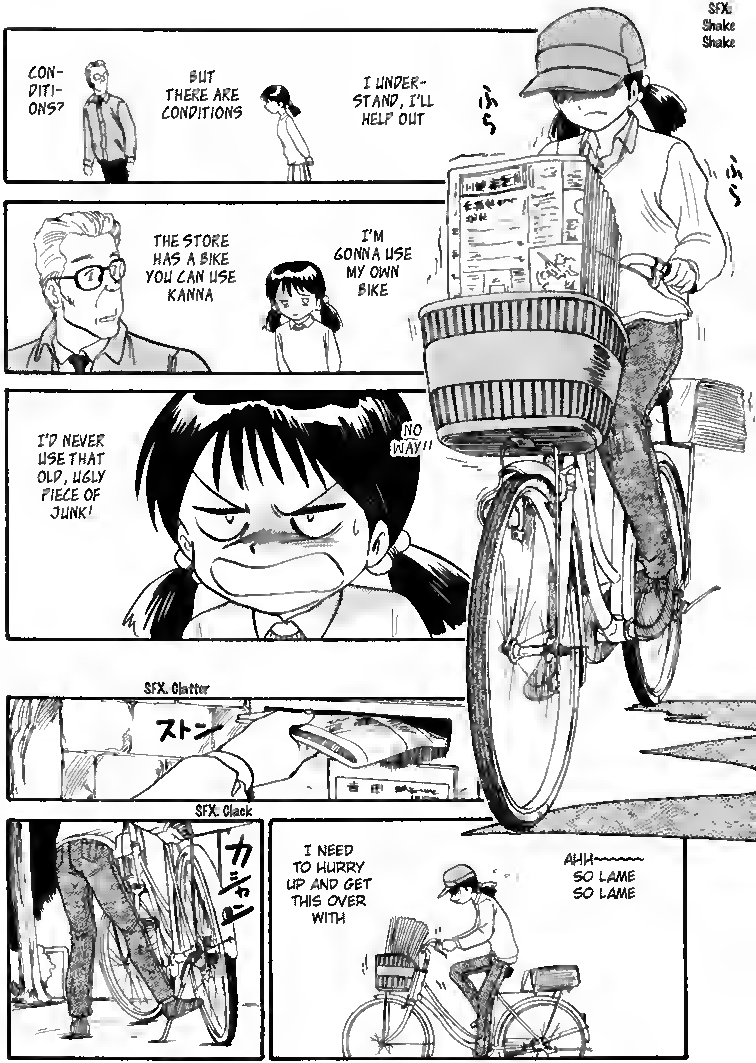
* Senbaiten is a special type of Japanese shop that has exclusive rights to sell a certain product in this case they fill subscriptions to a certain newspaper

SFX. Stomp stomp stomp
SFX. Clatter
IS SHE ANGRY ABOUT SOMETHING?
HMM
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP
AH
I'M DONE, TERAO-KUN
SFX. Cough
HOW DOES 700 YEN AN HOUR SOUND?
IT'S ABOUT HELPING OUT WITH THE STORE
KANNA
KANNA, ARE YOU AWAKE?
SFX. Strap
SO IF YOU COULD DO THE DELIVERIES AROUND THERE
WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH PEOPLE TO HANDLE THAT AREA IN FRONT OF THE STATION

KANNA! JUST HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA LOOK DOWN ON YOUR OWN FAMILY'S COMPANY ...!!
WHA ...
DIE !!
I'D RATHER
IF IT GOT SPREAD AROUND THERE WHAT I WAS DOING..
MAEDA-KUN LIVES NEAR THERE!
IN FRONT OF THE STATION ..
YOU'VE GOT TO BE JO-KING!
MIGHTY COM
THAT TERAO... HE'S BEEN IN AN ACC-IDENT!
BOSS! THERE'S A PROB-LEM!
A' A' A' A'

SFX. Step step step

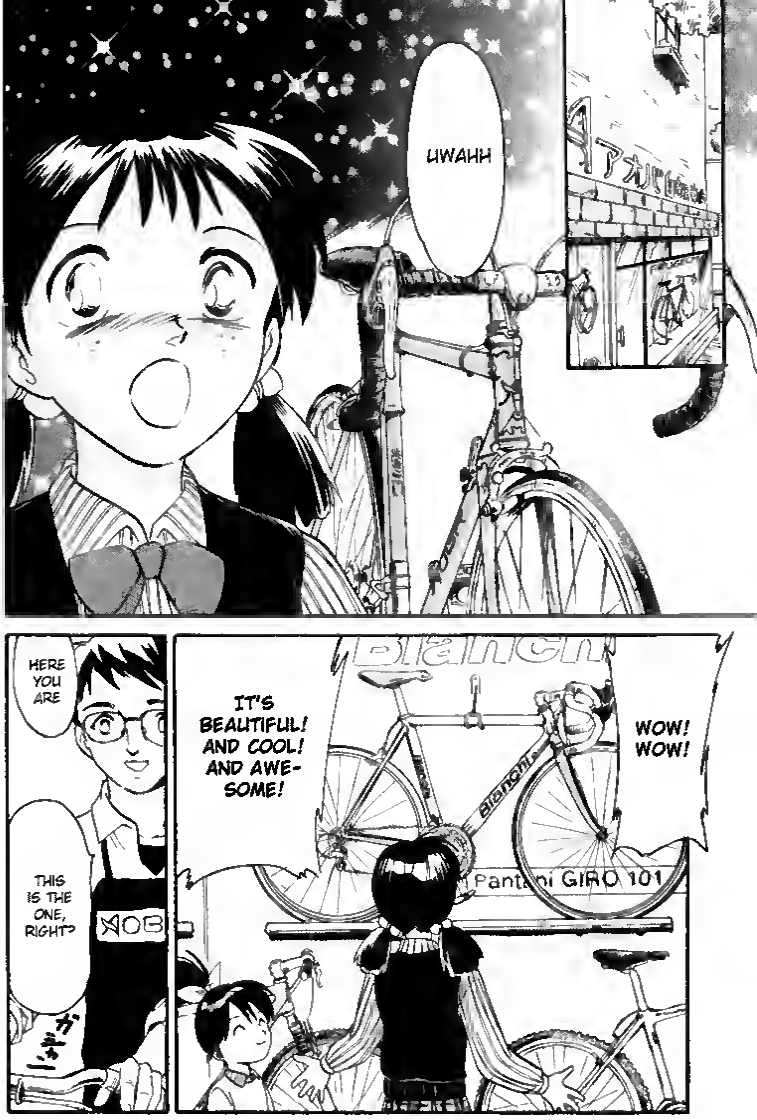
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT AND JUST REST, TERAO
I EVEN GOT THE BIKE TOTALED
SORRY, BOSS TO GET LAID UP AT A BUSY TIME LIKE THIS
THE PART I DELIVER TO IN FRONT OF THE STATION IS PRETTY TOUGH, I DON'T THINK ANY OF THE NEW GUYS CAN HANDLE IT...
BUT BOSS
THEY DON'T REALLY KNOW THE AREA VERY WELL
YOU'RE RIGHT HMM
SFX. Blow
SFX. Glance / Gulp


CON-
DITI-
ONS?
BUT
THERE ARE
CONDITIONS
I UNDER-
STAND, I'LL
HELP OUT
SFX: Shake Shake
THE STORE
HAS A BIKE
YOU CAN USE
KANNA
I'M
GONNA USE
MY OWN
BIKE
I'D NEVER
USE THAT
OLD, UGLY
PIECE OF
JUNK!
NO
WAY!!
SFX. Clatter
ストン
SFX. Clack
カシャン
I NEED
TO HURRY
UP AND GET
THIS OVER
WITH
AHH~~~~
SO LAME
SO LAME

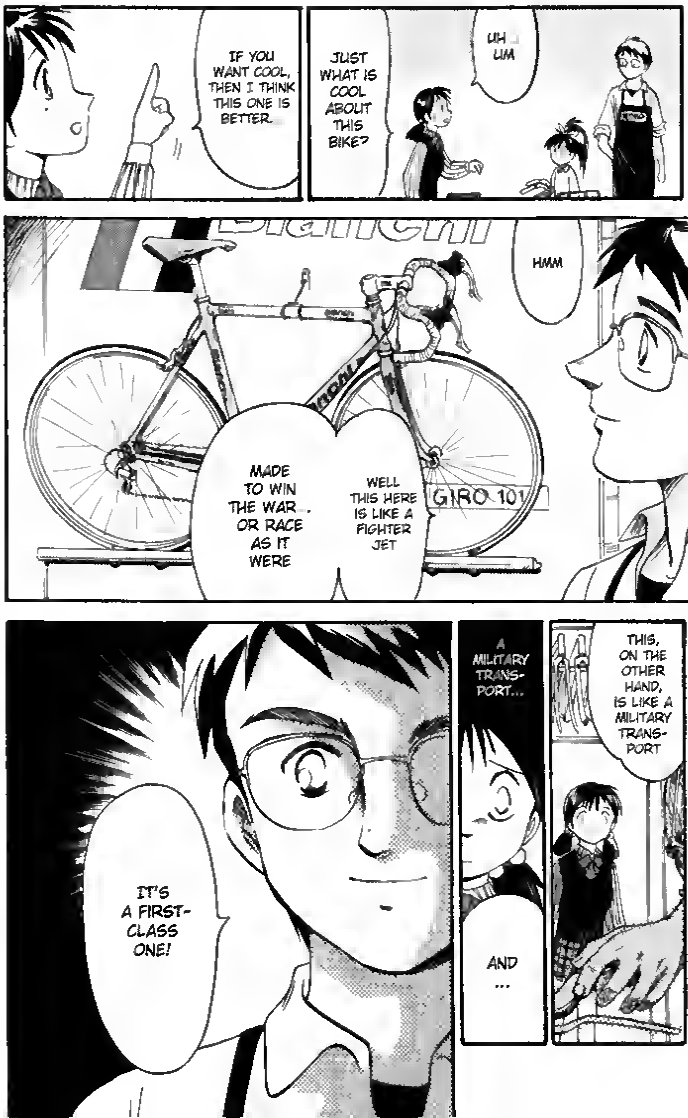
SFX. Creeeak
SFX. Clatter
SFX. Step step step
SFX. Crash
三鷹新聞
スポーツ
YOU IDIOT!!
SFX. Click click click
THIS KIND OF CRAP HAPPENS WHEN YOU'RE ONLY HALF-SERIOUS ABOUT IT!
THAT WAS 20 PAPERS DOWN THE DRAIN
IT'S NOT LIKE ...
I...

THIS STUPID LAME JOB!!
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M DOING THIS CUZ' I WANT TO!
SFX. Creak

THERE'S A LOT OF COOLER JOBS OUT THERE
HOW COME YOU CHOSE TO WORK AT THIS SENBAITEN?
WHAT IS IT OJOU-SAN?
HEY, TERAO-KUN
I haven't thought about it too much
I GUESS
I'M A COMPLICATED GUY, I GUESS
HA HA HA
UH, WHAT?
I
LOVE THE MORNING
THERE'S A STORE CALLED AOBA BICYCLE SHOP WHERE THEY'RE FIXING UP MY BIKE
AH, ACTUALLY KANNA OJOU-SAN, COULD I GET A FAVOR?
IT SHOULD BE ABOUT DONE, COULD YOU GO CHECK IN ON IT FOR ME?

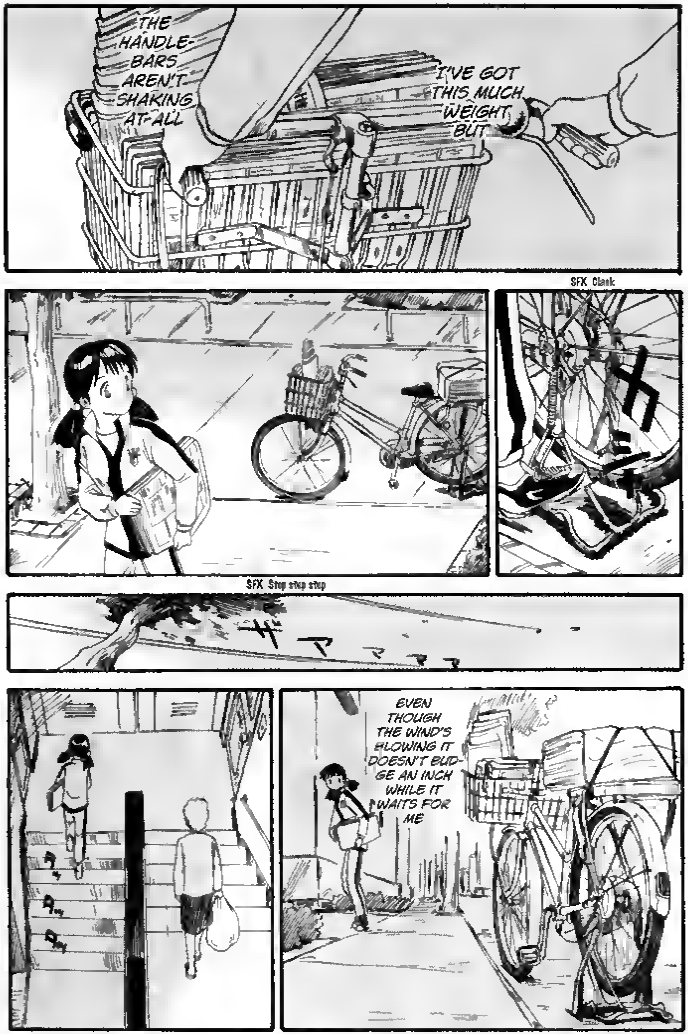

UWAHH
HERE YOU ARE
THIS IS THE ONE, RIGHT?
IT'S BEAUTIFUL! AND COOL! AND AWE-SOME!
WOW! WOW!
Bianchi
Pantani GIRO 101

HUH?
YEP
WHENEVER I SEE IT, I CAN'T HELP BUT ADMIRE HOW COOL IT IS
HMM
JOB
THIS BIKE?
COOL ...?


IF YOU WANT COOL, THEN I THINK THIS ONE IS BETTER.
JUST WHAT IS COOL ABOUT THIS BIKE?
UH UM
HMM
WELL THIS HERE IS LIKE A FIGHTER JET
MADE TO WIN THE WAR . OR RACE AS IT WERE
GIRO 101
A MILITARY TRANS-PORT...
AND ...
THIS, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS LIKE A MILITARY TRANS-PORT
IT'S A FIRST-CLASS ONE!

THIS BIKE WAS BORN FOR A SINGLE, SPECIFIC PURPOSE
CARRYING CAPACITY... ALL OF IT IS PERFECTLY CALCULATED
STABILITY, SECURITY
AND THAT'S TO CARRY NEWS-PAPERS!
SAFE AND SURE!
WHO-EVER IT IS WHO USES THIS BIKE
SURELY KNOWS THAT

Haa
Haa
SFX: Whoosh


THE HANDLEBARS AREN'T SHAKING AT ALL
I'VE GOT THIS MUCH WEIGHT, BUT
SFX Clank
SFX Step step step
EVEN THOUGH THE WIND'S BLOWING IT DOESN'T BUDGE AN INCH WHILE IT WAITS FOR ME

GOOD MORNING
G—
LOOKS LIKE TODAY'S GOING TO BE A NICE DAY
GOOD MORN-ING
SFX: Pedal pedal
GOOD MORNING
MOR-NING

I.
LOVE THE MORNINGS..
WHY ...
WHY ARE MY EYES TEARING UP...

SFX. Step step step
MORNING
YO
SUNTORY
G...
GOOD MORNING
MA_MAEDA-KUN!
KANNA FROM CLASS 1D!
HUH? THE NEWS-PAPER ..?
HAHA, OH IT'S YOU

I HEARD ABOUT YOU FROM SOME PART-TIMERS FROM YOUR CLASS THAT JUST STARTED AT MY FAMILY'S PLACE
SO YOU'RE DOING THE ROUTE IN PLACE OF THAT GUY WHO GOT INJURED?
I ALWAYS GET CALLED ON BY MY FAMILY TO HELP OUT WHENEVER THINGS GET ROUGH
And usually they don't pay me either!
I GUESS WE BOTH HAVE IT TOUGH WITH OUR FAMILY BUSINESSES
Well, do your best!
SFX: Wave wave wave

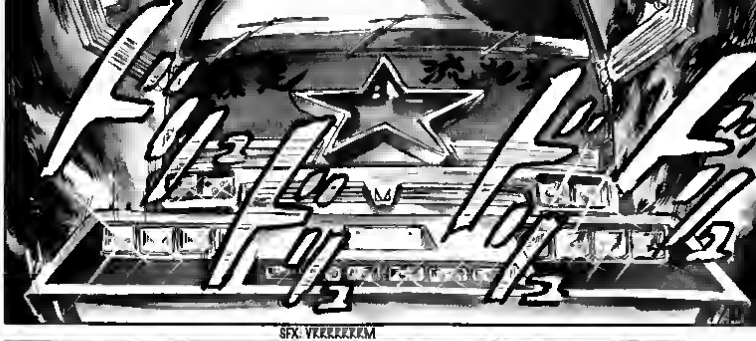
SFX: Pedal
キコ…
SUGINO KANNA
A 16-YEAR OLD WHO HAS BEGUN TO LOVE MORNINGS
CHAPTER 4 END

Pow!
Pow
Pow
SHOOTING STAR
GO!GO!
Chapter 5:
Mother's Shooting Star

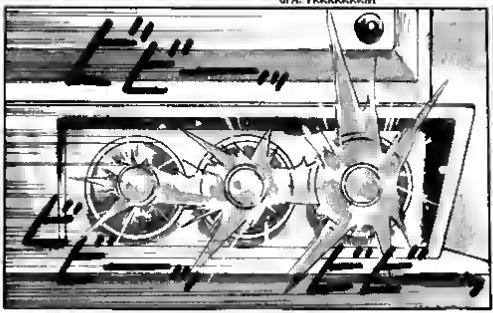
SFX. STEP STEP STEP
HE TOTALLY GIVES OFF THIS LITERATE FEEL, SO WONDERFUL~
SENPAI CAN EVEN MAKE THAT OLD-LOOKING MIDDLE SCHOOL UNIFORM LOOK COOL
AH, IT'S MATU-SHITA-SENPAI!
FOR HIM EVEN GET-TING INTO THE REST AND MOST FAMOUS PRIVATE SCHOOLS WOULD BE NO PROB-LEM!
SENPAI'S ALWAYS GOT THE BEST GRADES IN OUR SCHOOL!
JEEZ AOBA, CAN'T YOU SEE THAT'S MATSU-SHITA-SENPAI'S CHARM POINT!
WALKING WHILE READING A BOOK I MEAN
THAT'S KINDA DANGER-OUS
T-Tsec
HE'S NOT LIKE THOSE IDIOTS WHO JUST GET GOOD GRADES TO SHOW OFF!
BUT INSTEAD HE DECIDED TO STAY HERE IN HIS HOME-TOWN AND GO TO A NORMAL MIDDLE SCHOOL!
松下
OOOO, SO COOL~

SIGN ON FENCE: MATSUSHITA

I'M HOME!
SNORE
SFX. SNORE SNORE
カン カン
IT'S TIME, WAKE UP!
カン
PAPA, PAPA!
SFX. CLANG CLANG CLANG
RAMEN, RAMEN!
SALMON ROE!
CRAB, CRAB!
WAI' WAI' HOKKAI-DO!
TODAY YOU'RE HEADED TO HOKKAI-DO, RIGHT?
IF YOU DON'T GET A MOVE ON YOUR CARGO'S GONNA ROT
IT STINKS IT STINKS!
WAAA, DAD YOUR FART STINKS!
WELL THEN, GUESS I'LL TAKE OFF—
FARRRRRRT
SHUDDAP! THAT'S JUST HOW A REAL MAN'S BODY WORKS!



SFX: VRRRRRRRM



PIECE OF JUNK!
GEH...
AND THAT PAINT JOB DOESN'T HAVE EVEN A TOUCH OF CHARACTER!
THOSE GARISH LIGHTS ARE JUST A WASTE OF ELECTRICITY!
THIS... THIS LIFE
I'M GOING TO STUDY HARD AND ESCAPE FROM IT!
PUMPING OUT A WHOLE LITTER OF KIDS LIKE SOME STRAY CAT..
AND MOTHER IS JUST AS BAD.
Hmm what should I make?
Make some hamburgers!
Mama what's for lunch?

SFX. WRITE WRITE WRITE
LET'S PLAY, LET'S PLAY
MA-MORU-ONII-CHAN
I'VE GOT MID-TERMS STARTING NEXT WEEK
NO.
BORING~
LAME
COULD YOU DO SOME SHOPPING FOR ME?
I'VE GOT TO HANDLE THE IRONING RIGHT NOW
MAMORU, YOU DON'T HAVE TO SPEND ALL YOUR TIME STUDYING LIKE THAT
YOU'RE SMART, AFTER ALL

THIS ISN'T EASY LIKE GRADE SCHOOL!
I JUST SAID I HAVE MID-TERMS NEXT WEEK DION'T I!
I CAN'T TAKE A BREAK EITHER!
THE OTHER STUDENTS WILL CATCH UP TO ME!
IF I LET UP EVEN A LITTLE
MAMA DOESN'T REALLY UNDER-STAND THESE THINGS
OH... REALLY ?
I GUESS TODAY'S KIDS HAVE IT ROUGH

THE PLACE I'M GOING TO IS GREAT
OH ARE YOU PICKING OUT A CRAM SCHOOL?
SUZUKI-SAN
MATSUSHITA-KUN
PRIVATE CRAM SCHOOL
HMM
THE CURRICULUM IS WELL-ORGANIZED AND THE TEACHERS ARE REALLY HELPFUL
IT'S A REALLY INCREDIBLE CRAM SCHOOL
MATSUSHITA, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET IN ON THEIR SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP!
BUT, MY FAMILY DOESN'T HAVE THAT KIND OF MONEY...
I ALREADY KNOW ALL ABOUT IT..
* APPROX $200
THEY MAY HAVE CHANGED THE NUMBERS RECENTLY, BUT LAST I HEARD YOU COULD GET 3 YEARS OF STUDY FOR JUST 90,000 YEN*
THAT'S ALMOST 1/10TH THE NORMAL PRICE!
WHOEVER SCORES HIGHEST ON THE ENTRANCE EXAM NEXT MONTH
EH ...?
WILL GET A HUGE DISCOUNT ON THE PRICE OF ATTENDANCE

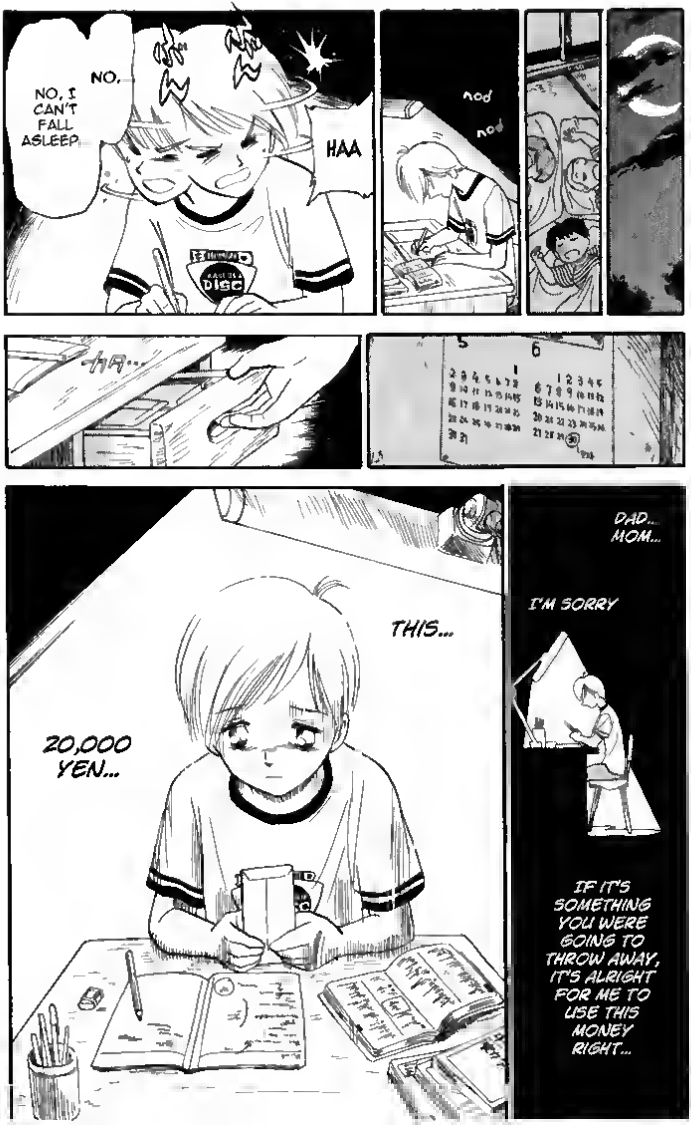
And get Yoshiko a new diaper
DON'T GET IN THE WAY OF YOUR BROTHER'S STUDYIN'
MAMA'S GONNA RUSH ON OVER TO THE STORE
ALRIGHT!
OH MY
LOOKS LIKE RAIN
THAT'S NOT GOING TO BE ENOUGH—
THE BUDGET FOR THE KIDS IS 18,000 YEN—
Haa
Haa
Haa
MA.. MATSUSHITA HOUSE, RIGHT?
YOU'VE GOTTA COME TO THE HOSPITAL RIGHT AWAY!!
haa
MA—
AH, IT'S MAMA
WELCOME HOM—

MAMAAAAAA!
MAMA!!
WHACK
yikes
DON'T YOU LEAVE ME AND BECOME A SHOOTING STAR
DON'T DIE! YOU CAN'T DIE NOW!
OPEN YER EYES!
YOU'RE BOTHERIN' THE OTHER PATIENTS!!
It's just a broken bone!
THE ONE WHO NEEDS TO OPEN THEIR EYES IS YOU!
I SEE AOBA-CHAN RIGHT? THANKS A BUNCH
AUNTIE GOT INTO AN ACCIDENT RIGHT IN FRONT OF OUR STORE

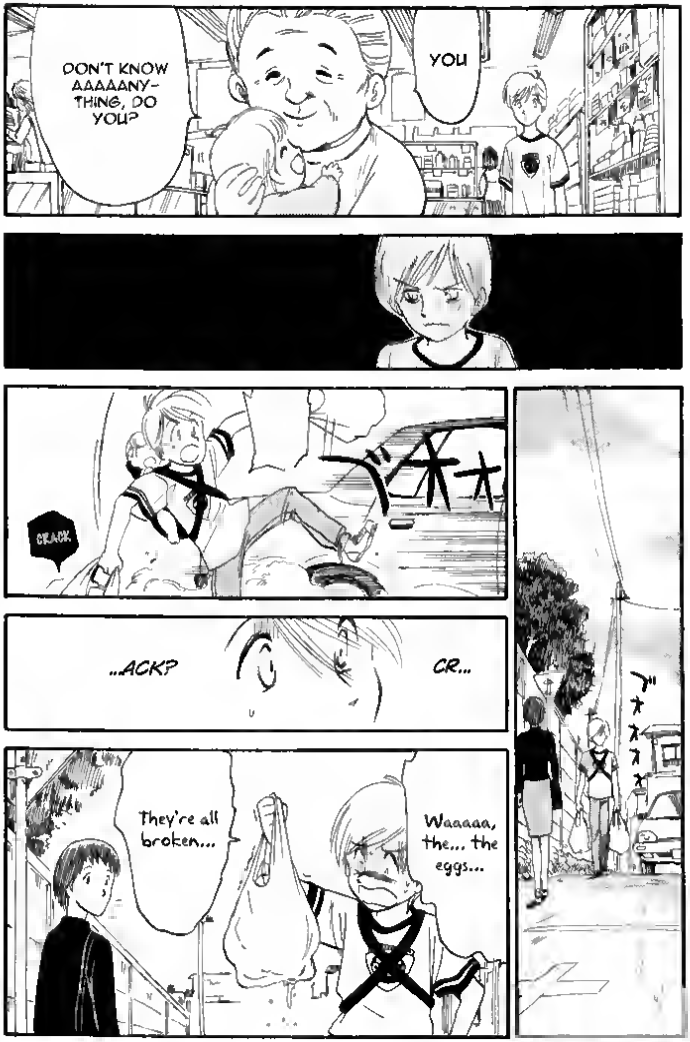
SORRY, MISTER
AS SOON AS I HEARD THE NOISE I RAN OUT-SIDE BUT...
SO WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHER GUY IN THE ACCIDENT?
HE WASN'T INJURED OR ANY-THING?
I GUESS SOMEBODY IMPORTANT WAS IN THE CAR CUZ' SOME LACKEY GUY CAME OUT
AND HE TOLD ME TO KEEP IT ALL A SECRET AND SHOVED THIS ENVELOPE AT ME
HE RAN OFF!?
MISTER, THAT GUY...
HE GAVE ME THIS...
IF I EVER FIND THE GUY I'M GONNA BEAT HIM TO A PULP!
THAT BAS-TARD
This is a hospital!
Mmm, Matsushita-san
!!

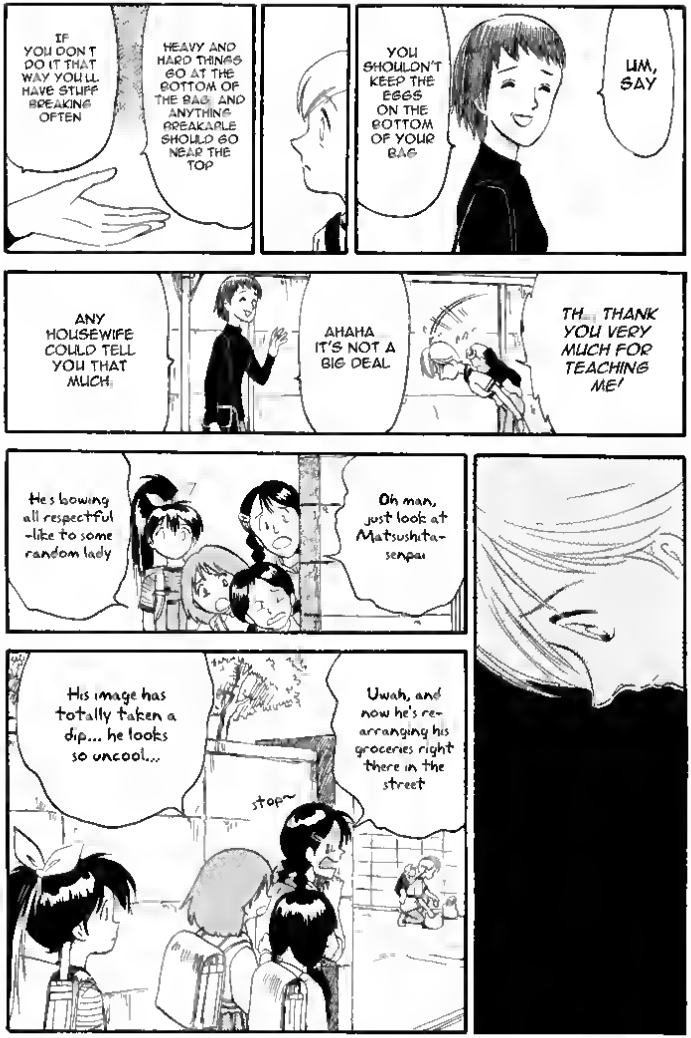
MONEY, AND SO MUCH OF IT!
WAA, IT'S MONEY!
DAD, WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING!
THIS IS CONSOLATION MONEY! I'M SURE-
MAMORU! TAKE THAT MONEY
AND THROW IT OUT!!
BEFORE MONEY, BEFORE ANY-THING ELSE!
FIRST YOU MAKE SURE YOU HAVEN'T HURT ANYONE!
THEN YOU APOLO-GIZE!!!

I CAN'T HELP IT THIS IS MY FIRST TIME MAKING THESE THINGS...
you suck you suck!
WAA, ONII-CHAN YOU SUCK
ARE THESE S'POSED TO BE ONIGIRI?
TODAY I'M HEADED TO KYUSHU! I'LL GET BACK THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW!!
YOU DID ALRIGHT! ANYWAY I'M GONNA LEAVE THE HOUSE TO YOU, MAMORU!
WAHHHHHH
Crap, gotta get the mail
HAA
ガロロオオオ
daa daa daa
キーン
コーン

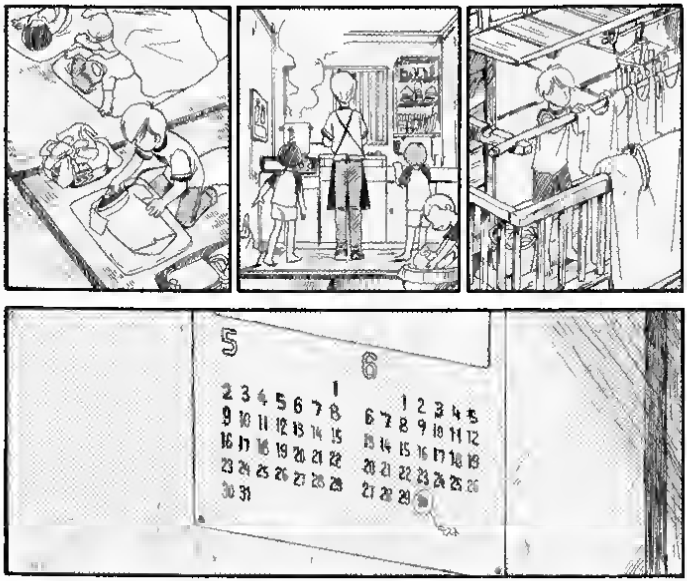

NO.
NO, I CAN'T FALL ASLEEP.
HAA
nod
nod
...HA...
5
6
DAD... MOM...
I'M SORRY
IF IT'S SOMETHING YOU WERE GOING TO THROW AWAY, IT'S ALRIGHT FOR ME TO USE THIS MONEY RIGHT...
THIS...
20,000 YEN...

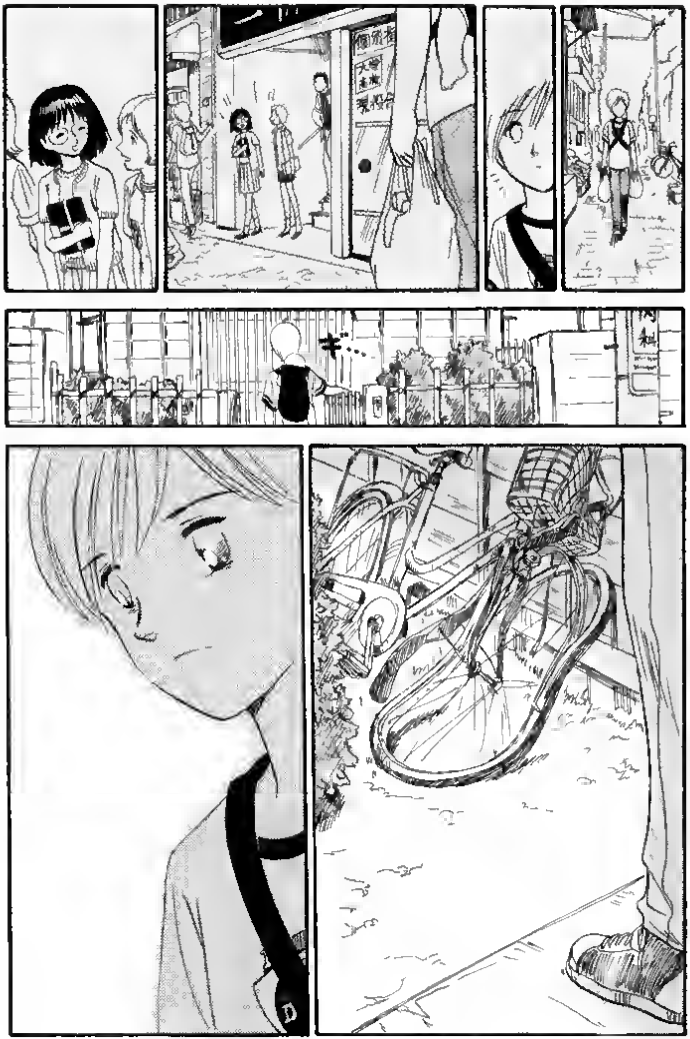
Haa
Haa
Haa
WHA
WHAT IS IT YOSHIKO, ALL OF THE SUDDEN
Ugy
aaa
SFX. BLURT
Waaaaaa
Where the heck do they sell diapers!?
Crap! You're taking a crap back there!
I'M NOT REALLY SURE HOW TO CHANGE THEM EITHER...
SORRY...
OH MY.
IF YOU'RE GOING OUTSIDE YOU SHOULD ALWAYS BRING TWO OR THREE EXTRA DIAPERS ALONG
I SEE
クスリ


DON'T KNOW AAAAANY-THING, DO YOU?
YOU
CRACK
...ACK?
CR...
They're all broken...
Waaaaa, the... the eggs...


IF YOU DON'T DO IT THAT WAY YOU'LL HAVE STUFF BREAKING OFTEN
HEAVY AND HARD THINGS GO AT THE BOTTOM OF THE BAG AND ANYTHING BREAKABLE SHOULD GO NEAR THE TOP
YOU SHOULDN'T KEEP THE EGGS ON THE BOTTOM OF YOUR BAG
UM, SAY
ANY HOUSEWIFE COULD TELL YOU THAT MUCH
AHAHA IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL
TH... THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR TEACHING ME!
He's bowing all respectful -like to some random lady
Oh man, just look at Matsushita-senpai
His image has totally taken a dip... he looks so uncool...
stop~
Uwah, and now he's re-arranging his groceries right there in the street

HE ACTUALLY LOOKS A BIT COOLER NOW
REALLY?.. I THINK...

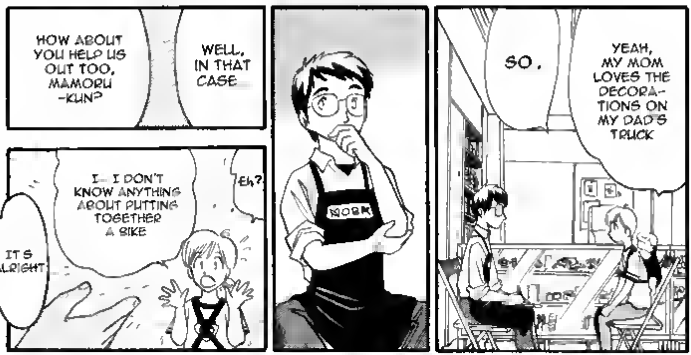

5
6



MATSU-SHITA--SENPAI?
アオバ自転車店
PEUGEOT
AOBA-CHAN'S DAD
I'VE GOT A REQUEST WITH THIS
WITH THIS MONEY, PLEASE MAKE MY MOTHER A NEW BIKE.

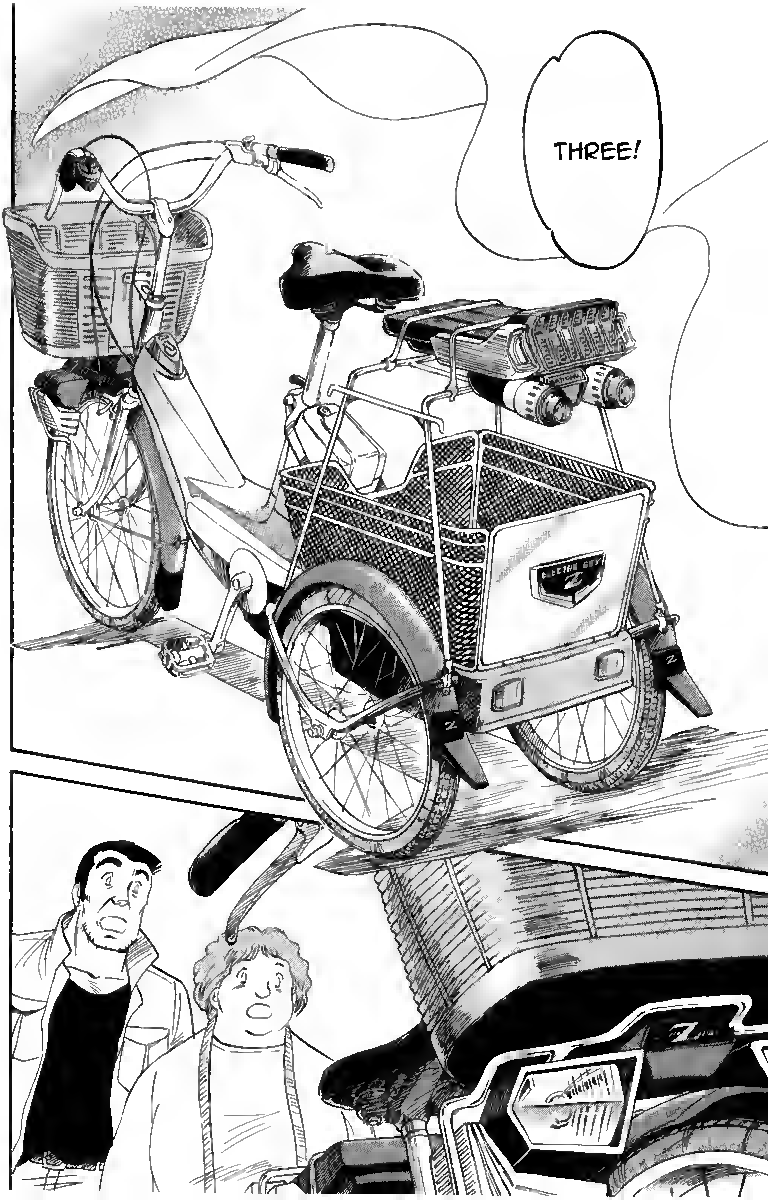
WE'RE OKAY WITH ANY ORDER! NO MATTER HOW CRAZY IT IS, MY DAD CAN MAKE IT!
LEAVE IT TO US, SENPAI!

YOU WANT IT TO BE A BICYCLE LIKE YOUR FATHER'S TRUCK?
...


HOW ABOUT YOU HELP US OUT TOO, MAMORU -KUN?
WELL, IN THAT CASE...
I-- I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT PUTTING TOGETHER A BIKE
Eh?
IT'S ALRIGHT
WORK
SO.
YEAH, MY MOM LOVES THE DECORATIONS ON MY DAD'S TRUCK

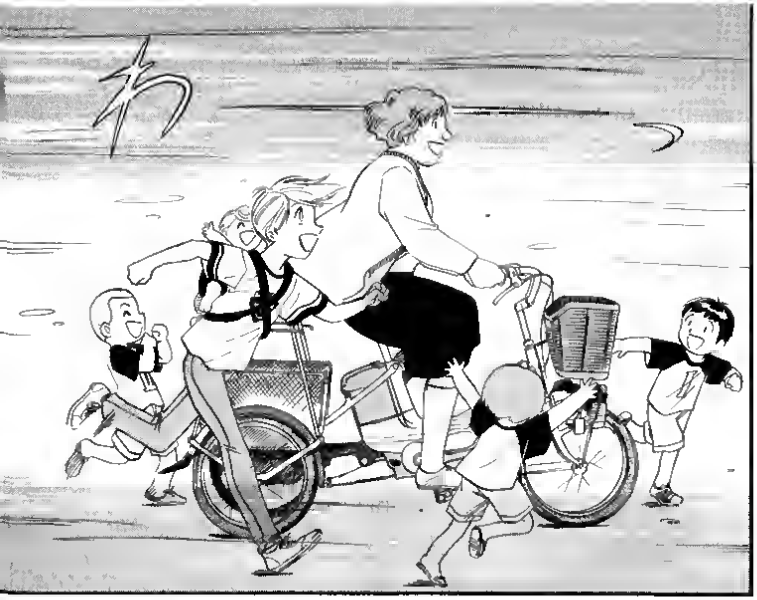
I WANT YOU TO CALL SOME FOLKS
AND SEE IF ANY OF THEM CARRY A SPECIAL SOME-THING
MOB
HELLO? UM, YOU SEE
THIS IS THE 238TH ONE...
MISTER !
YES, THAT'S THE ONE!
EH?
YES
YES!

I WAS STUCK IN THAT HOSPITAL FOR A MONTH AND YOU'RE THE ONLY WHO CAME TO PICK ME UP
HUH?
BUT, HOW COME YOU DIDN'T BRING ANY OF THE KIDS WITH YA
REALLY WANTED TO WAIT FOR YOU AT HOME I GUESS
YA SEE THEY REALLY
NAH, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT
AT HOME?
HERE WE GO. ONE, TWO...
WE'VE GOT A WELCOME-HOME PRESENT READY FOR YOU
MOM, WELCOME HOME
ドゥルルルル
キッ


THREE!

RIDE IT RIDE IT!
ALRIGHT, MOM, GET ON AND TRY IT OUT
IT, IT'S..
はは
IT'S A LITTLE EM-BARASSIN
WELL, HERE I GO..
カチ
LIKE... THIS?
AUNTIE, WHY DON'T YOU TRY THIS SWITCH ?
OH, AOBA -CHAN

BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
WAAAAH
UHAA!
THAT'S AMAZIN'!
IT'S GOT THE SAME SHOOTIN' STAR AS MY TRUCK!



IT LOOKED HEAVY AT FIRST GLANCE BUT IT RIDES REAL SMOOTH
IT'S AN ELECTRIC BICYCLE, MOM.
WOW, SO IT RUNS ON ELECTRICITY!
WELL... NOT EXACTLY, IT JUST HELPS YOU PEDAL WITH ELECTRICITY...
MAMA DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THE COMPLI-CATED STUFF BUT...
MAMORU, EVERYONE!

Thank you!
THAT SHOOTING STAR LIGHT FIXTURE USED TO BE QUITE POPULAR ABOUT 25 YEARS AGO, RIGHT SIR?
TW... TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO? HOW DID YA FIND IT...
MAMORU-KUN CALLED UP BICYCLE SHOPS ALL ACROSS JAPAN LOOKING FOR IT!

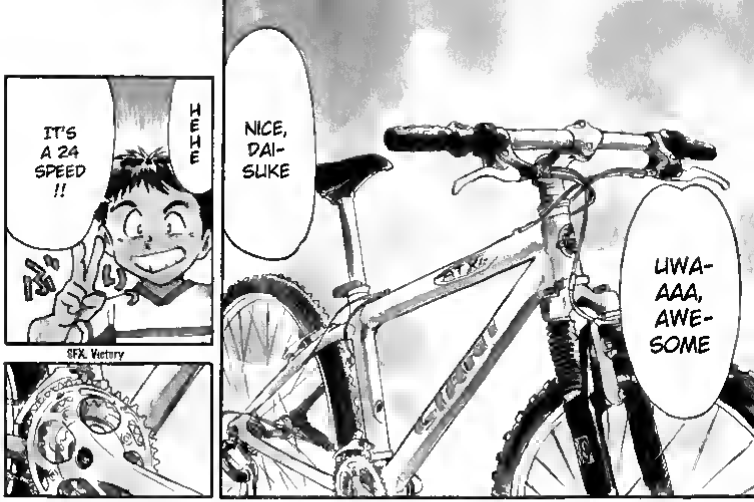
THIS THIS IS?
IT'S THE MONEY YOU TOLD YOUR SON TO THROW AWAY
SO, WITH THAT,
I'LL RETURN THIS TO YOU
MAMORU-KUN BROUGHT THAT...
AND ASKED ME TO BUILD A BIKE FOR HIS MOTHER JUST LIKE HIS FATHER'S TRUCK
SIR
USE THAT MONEY TO PUT YOUR SON IN A CRAM SCHOOL
I THINK HE'S ALRIGHT NOW
I DON'T THINK MAMORU-KUN WILL BE USING HIS STUDIES TO ESCAPE LIFE ANYMORE

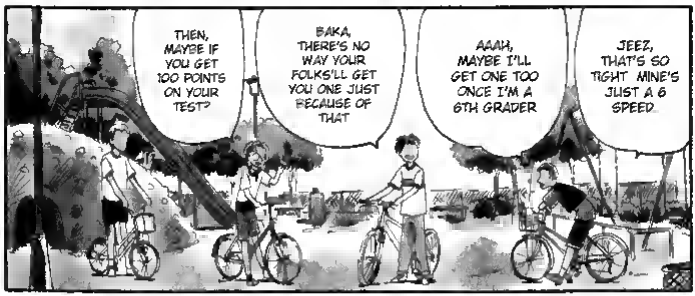
Ahhhhh
I've created a monster!
YOU'RE QUITE THE BARGAINER...
HMM, LITTLE LADY
WELL THEN MISTER, YOU'LL FIND OUR 30% PAYMENT PLAN VERY REASONABLE!
It's only 0.8% interest!

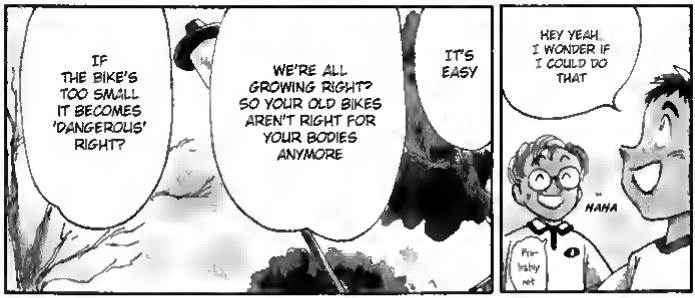
CHAPTER 5/END

CHAPTER 6

SHOES YOU CAN'T PUT ON


HEHE
IT'S A 24 SPEED !!
SFX: Victory
NICE, DAI-SUKE
UWA-AAA, AWE-SOME


THEN, MAYBE IF YOU GET 100 POINTS ON YOUR TEST?
BAKA, THERE'S NO WAY YOUR FOLKS'LL GET YOU ONE JUST BECAUSE OF THAT
AAAH, MAYBE I'LL GET ONE TOO ONCE I'M A 6TH GRADER
JEEZ, THAT'S SO TIGHT. MINE'S JUST A 6 SPEED.


IF THE BIKE'S TOO SMALL IT BECOMES 'DANGEROUS' RIGHT?
WE'RE ALL GROWING RIGHT? SO YOUR OLD BIKES AREN'T RIGHT FOR YOUR BODIES ANYMORE
IT'S EASY
HEY YEAH. I WONDER IF I COULD DO THAT
HAHA
Probably not

SFX. Woah
YOUR PARENTS'LL DEFINITELY GET YOU A BIGGER BIKE IF YOU ASK
KOUTA, YOU'RE TALLER THAN ME RIGHT?
THAT DANGER IS WHAT YOU SHOULD FOCUS ON
MAKE YOUR PARENTS THINK YOUR LIFE IS IN PERIL
SFX. Creak creak creak
I... I LIKE THIS ONE
IT'S FINE
SFX. POW
KOUTA'S DAD GOT 'RESTRUCTURED' SO NOW HE HAS TO WORK PART-TIME JOBS!
DAISUKE YOU IDIOT! KOUTA'S FAMILY HAS A TON OF PROBLEMS RIGHT NOW
WHA-T'RE YOU DOIN!
ぽか
HE HAS TO RIDE IT ALL BOW-LEGGED
HAHA
It really is too small for him.

SFX: Ring
SFX: Click
ガチャ
SFX: Tick tock tick tock
コチ
コチ
コチ
SFX: Write write write
I'M HOME KOUTA
THEW
WEL-COME HOME DAD
I'VE ALREADY EATEN DINNER
THE BATH'S ALL OPEN TOO
SO GO AHEAD AND WASH OFF YOUR SWEAT
K.K.T

TAKE IT EASY, DAD. HERE'S A BEER
OHHH
PHEW
ガハア
SFX. Splash
SFX. Gulp gulp gulp
SFX. Write write write
ALRIGHT, WELL I'M GONNA GET BACK TO MY HOMEWORK
PUHAAAA
I'm revived
KOLITA
HAS SOMETHING COME UP AT SCHOOL?

YOU CAN'T CALL THIS REAL COMM-UNICATION
WAIT CRAP CRAP
I SEE
OH
I'VE GOT TONS OF FRIENDS
NOPE
I'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE TO REALLY KEEP AN EYE ON HOW HE'S DOING
IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US NOW
NEXT MONTH IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY! WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR A PRESENT?
OH, THAT'S RIGHT!
IT'S REALLY ALRIGHT DAD
AWW DON'T HOLD BACK WANT SOME GAMES? OR CDS?
IT'S ALRIGHT, DAD
WE CAN'T WASTE MONEY WHEN WE'RE CAUGHT UP IN THE BAD HEISEI ECO-NOMY!
YOU JUST SWITCHED JOBS AF-TER ALL
I KNOW WE'RE IN A TIGHT SPOT RIGHT NOW
I DON'T REALLY WANT ANY-THING RIGHT NOW

SFX: Vroom
JEEZ
ガー
I NEED TO DO MY BEST TOO, AND TURN THIS PART-TIME JOB INTO A REAL CAREER
HE'S EVEN MORE WORRIED ABOUT THINGS THAN I AM
SFX: Vrrrrrm
LATER
SEE YOU
SFX: CRASH
SFX: VRRRRRRRR
WAH!
KOUTA LOOK OUT!

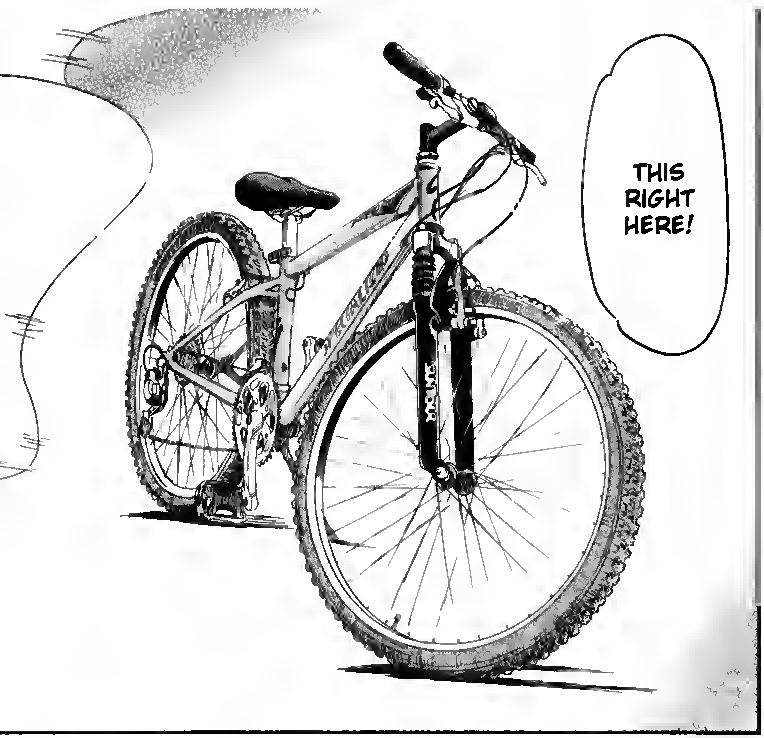
SFX. Worried worried
SFX. Fiddle fiddle
SFX. Tap / Spiffin
THAT'S GREAT
THAT'LL BE 500 YEN
IT DIDN'T END UP COSTING YA AN ARM AND A LEG
SFX. Relieved
THE WHEEL CASING WAS JUST A LITTLE DAMAGED
AL-RIGHT, IT'S OKAY
SFX. Clunk

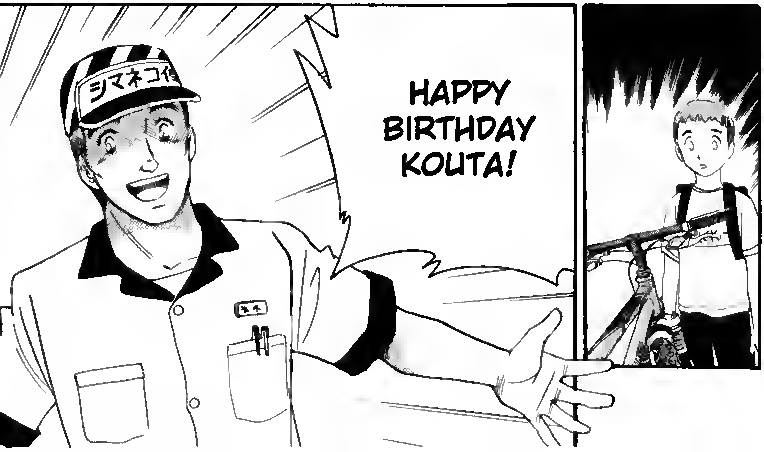
WHEN YOU'RE READY TO TRADE IT IN, REMEMBER TO COME TO AOBA BICYCLE SHOP!
I THINK IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE SMALL FOR YOU
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE REALLY TAKING GOOD CARE OF THAT BICYCLE, BUT
LIM
I LIKE THIS ONE
IT'S FINE
GKK
THANKS FOR YOUR BUSINESS
SFX. Vrrrm
OH
TODAY'S ROUTE WENT TOTALLY SMOOTH
ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT

LOOKS LIKE HE'S REALLY GOING ALL OUT
HA HA
THEY'RE BIKING THE NICE PATH BY THE RIVER
IT'S KOUTA AND HIS FRIENDS
!
HE'S PEDALING WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH LIKE THAT BUT...
HIS FRIENDS ARE STILL LEAVING HIM FAR BEHIND
COME TO THINK OF IT, WE BOUGHT HIM THAT BIKE WAY BACK WHEN HE WAS ENTERING THE 1ST GRADE
ALRIGHT!!
.....

SFX. Tick tock tick
HE'S COMING HOME IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT EVERY DAY RECENTLY
DAD'S LATE, AGAIN
SFX. Whump
I JUST TRIPPED A LITTLE
DON'T WORRY, DON'T WORRY
ARE YOU ALRIGHT DAD!
SFX. Squeeze
DAD!
JUST A LITTLE LONGER ?
JUST A LITTLE IT'LL JUST BE A LITTLE LONGER, SO JUST HOLD ON
SORRY FOR LEAVING YOU ALONE KOUTA

I GUESS IT'S FINE AS LONG AS HE'S NOT MAKING HIMSELF SICK...
I WONDER IF DAD'LL BE LATE AGAIN TODAY
LATER
SEE YA
SIR
I WONDER IF HE FORGOT SOMETHING
DAD'S WORK TRUCK IS IN FRONT OF OUR HOUSE...
SFX. Confused
きょとん
YOUR DELIVERY IS...
I HAVE SOMETHING TO DELIVER FOR YOU, SO IF I COULD JUST GET YOUR SIGNATURE


THIS RIGHT HERE!

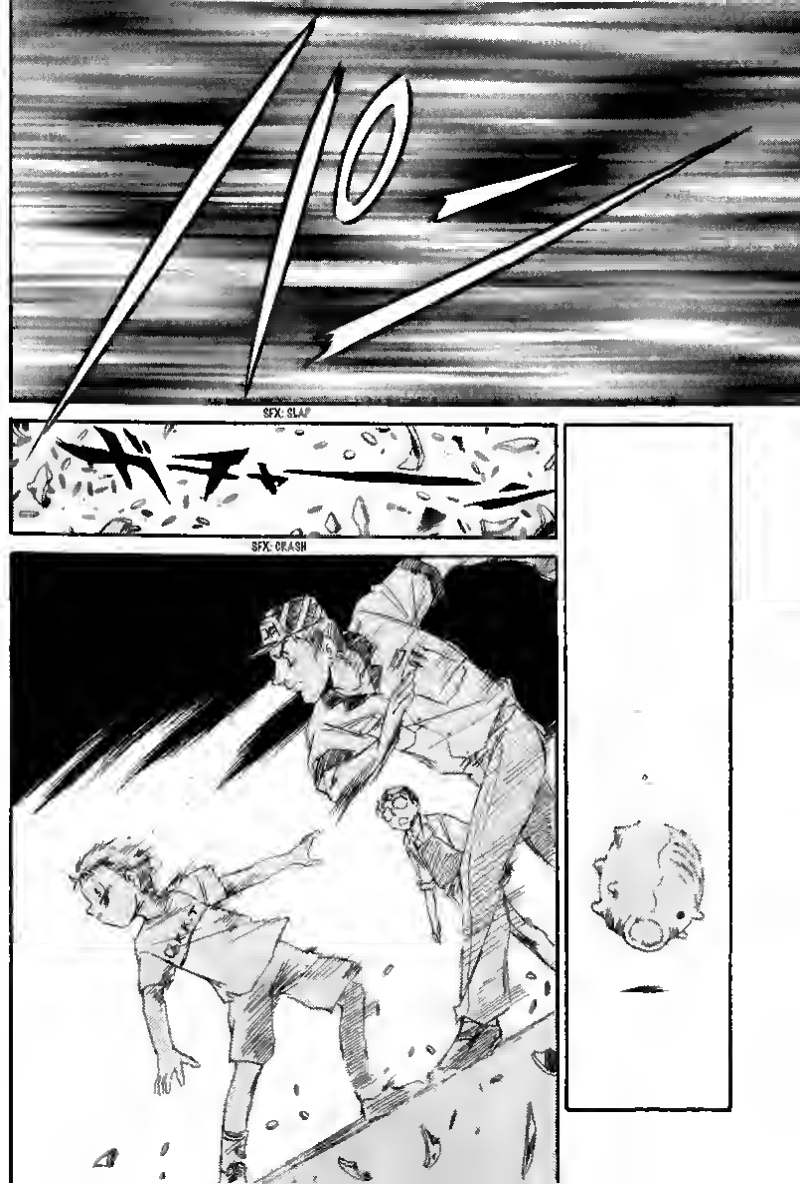

HAPPY BIRTHDAY KOUTA!
シマネコイ

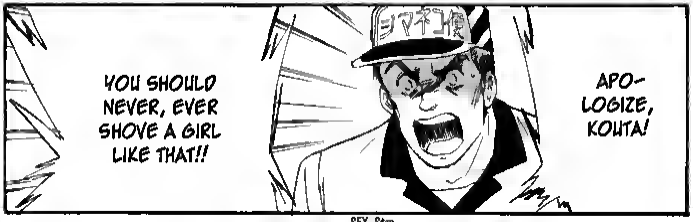
あらら
がくん
WHERE'S MY BIKE?
DAD ...
THAT'S WHAT I'M SAYING. THIS IS YOUR NEW BIKE, KOUTA!
IT'S A BRAND NEW MOUNTAIN BIKE!
AAH, THE ONE YOU HAD BEFORE I TOOK THAT AND SOLD IT TO AOBA BICYCLE SHOP WHEN I WAS BUYING THIS NEW ONE
I MEAN MY... THE ONE I WAS RIDING BEFORE
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT
THEY'RE REALLY NICE OVER THERE EVEN THOUGH IT WAS SO OLD AND BEAT UP THEY STILL GAVE ME A GOOD DEAL ON THE TRADE
IT WASN'T BEAT UP!!

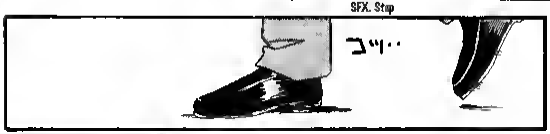
DAD... DAD YOU IDIOT!! I DON'T WANT A NEW BIKE!!
SFX. Grab
SFX. Flash
KOU-TA!
KOUTA, WHERE ARE YOU GOING!
SFX Flash

SFX. Slam
バン
MY
はあ
はあ
ソアオバ自転車店
PEUGEOT
Rest of the SFX on the page. All Haa a, from panting.
HUH?
IF YOU WANT MONEY FOR IT
GIVE ME BACK MY BIKE!
はあ
はあ
はあ
はあ
I'VE GOT MONEY RIGHT HERE!!
IT'S HERE
はあ
はあ

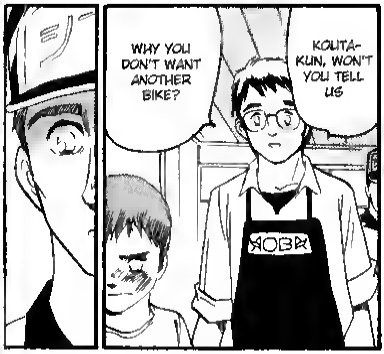
SFX: Screeeuuh
KOUTA!!
YEAH, I SAID IT BEFORE BUT THIS ONE'S TOO OLD FOR YOU
SFX: Dash
SFX: Shove
DON'T TOUCH MY BIKE!!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE NEW BIKE!
WHAT'S WRONG!
WHAT

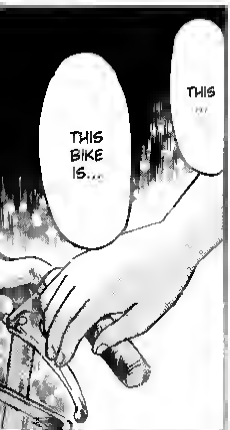

SFX: SLAP
SFX: CRASH


APO-
LOGIZE,
KOUTA!
YOU SHOULD
NEVER, EVER
SHOVE A GIRL
LIKE THAT!!


SFX. Stup

YOU...
YOU, WHY
CAN'T YOU
UNDER-
STAND
...
WHAT
I WENT
THROUGH
TO GET YOU
THAT BIKE
...


KOUTA-
KUN, WON'T
YOU TELL
US
WHY YOU
DON'T WANT
ANOTHER
BIKE?


THIS
THIS
BIKE
IS...

SFX: Waaaaaaaa

HERE WE GO KOUTA, JUST A LITTLE MORE!
I'M RIDING! I'M RIDING MAMA!
AL-RIGHT KOUTA!
ALL YOU EVER THINK ABOUT IS WORK, WORK, WORK!
WHOSE SAKE DO YOU THINK I'M WORKING FOR!
HEY, DADDY
WHERE'S MAMA GOING?
HEY
HAHA
SO THAT'S WHAT IT WAS

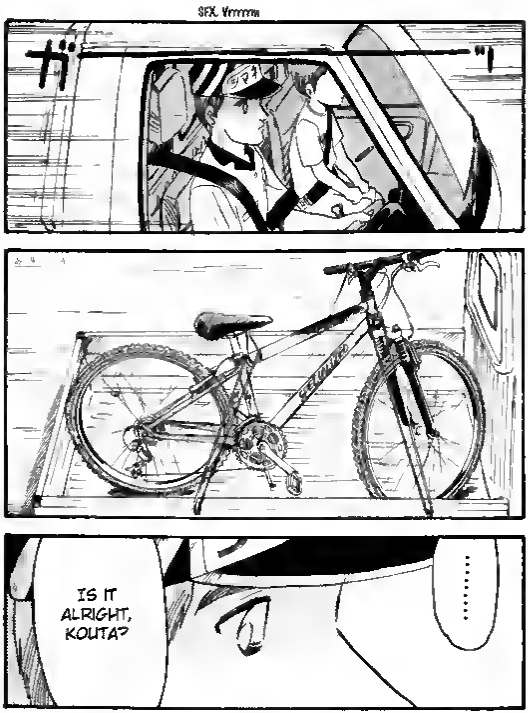
THAT.. WASN'T JUST ANY OLD BIKE ...
IT WAS FULL OF MEMORIES, WASN'T IT.. KOUTA

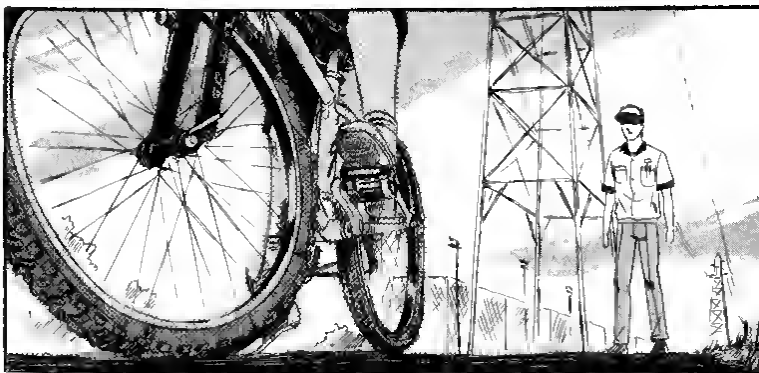
EVEN SO ..

SNIFF
WAAAA

EVEN IF IT'S NOT TODAY—
SOMEDAY, IT HAS TO CHANGE

WE...
WON'T ALWAYS BE ABLE TO WEAR KID'S SHOES ...


SFX. Vrrrrrm
IS IT ALRIGHT, KOUTA?
.....



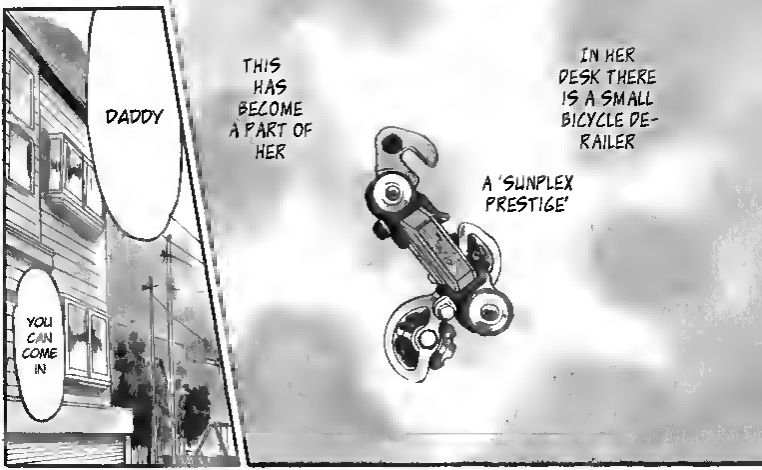
SFX: Whirr
SFX: WHEEEEE
I'M STEPPING DOWN ON THE PEDALS WITH ALL MY MIGHT AND LOOKING FORWARD, FORWARD
FORWARD
THIS BIKE
IT FITS MY BODY PERFECTLY
SFX: Gasp
I'LL MAKE A WHOLE BUNCH OF NEW MEMORIES!
THANKS, DAD! WITH THIS...
DAD!

AND...
GARDEN NAMIKI
DEAR?

GARDEN NAMIKI
CAN WE TALK?
CAN...
CHAPTER 6 /END

BONUS CHAPTER

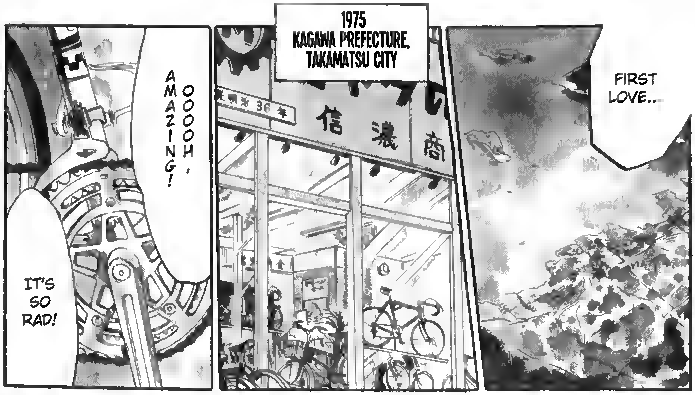
THE SAME AS THAT SKY

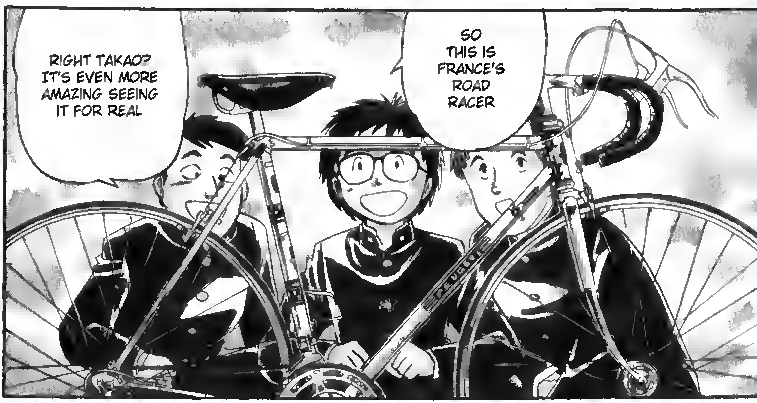

DADDY
YOU CAN COME IN
THIS HAS BECOME A PART OF HER
A 'SUNPLEX PRESTIGE'
IN HER DESK THERE IS A SMALL BICYCLE DE-RAILER

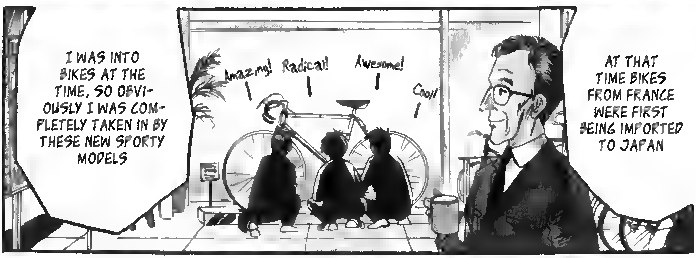
BUT LISTEN DADDY, IT'S ABOUT MY BIKE...
COME ON WAKABA YOU KNOW I'M WORKING RIGHT NOW

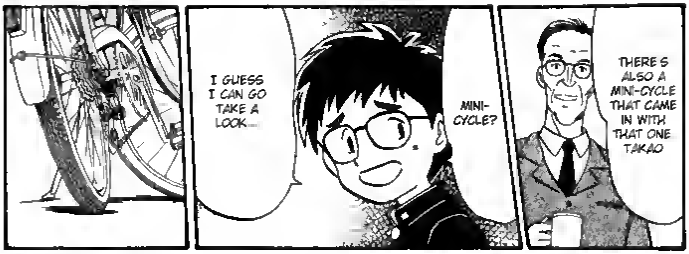
MY BIKE'S THE ONE ONII-CHAN USED WHEN HE WAS STILL IN 1ST GRADE
IT'S BECAUSE IT'S TOO SMALL
DID YOU FALL?
HM?

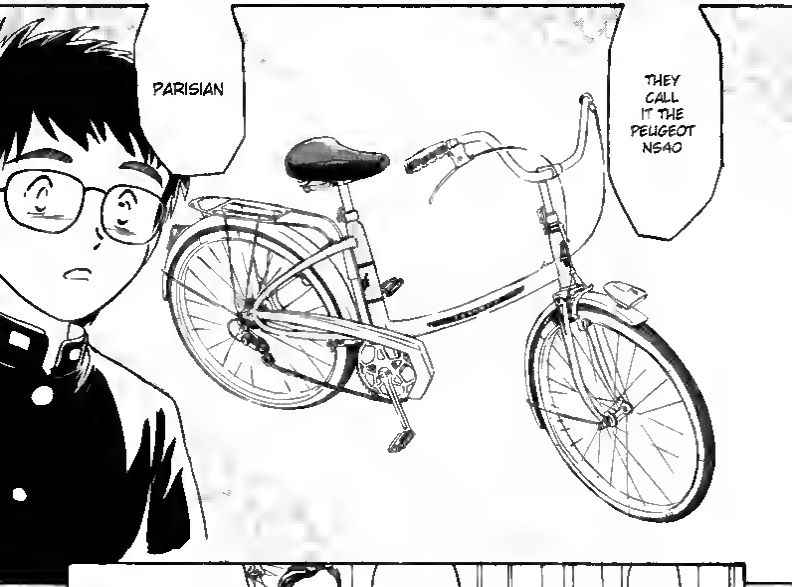
SFX. Yay
やったっ
A COOL MOUNTAIN BIKE LIKE ONII-CHAN HAS!
HEY HEY, THEN I WANT
GUESS WE'D BETTER THINK ABOUT GETTING YOU A NEW ONE
THAT'S TRUE... AND YOU'RE GOING TO BE IN 5TH GRADE HERE SOON...
HUH?
You won't be able to wear a skirt.
Hmmm, even if you're a tomboy a mountain bike is a little much.
DAD, A MANGA ARTIST WHO ONLY DRAWS THE SAME THING OVER AND OVER WON'T LAST LONG
I'VE HEARD OF THIS HAPPENING NOW AND THEN
YOU'RE DRAWING THIS SAME BIKE AGAIN?
SFX. 4ch...
DON'T LAUGH NOW IT WAS YOUR FATHER'S
WELL, SEE WAKABA, THAT BIKE


1975
KAGAWA PREFECTURE, TAKAMATSU CITY
FIRST LOVE...
OOOOH, AMAZING!
IT'S SO RAD!


SO THIS IS FRANCE'S ROAD RACER
RIGHT TAKAO? IT'S EVEN MORE AMAZING SEEING IT FOR REAL


AT THAT TIME BIKES FROM FRANCE WERE FIRST BEING IMPORTED TO JAPAN
Amazing!
Radical!
Awesome!
Cool!
I WAS INTO BIKES AT THE TIME, SO OBVIOUSLY I WAS COMPLETELY TAKEN IN BY THESE NEW SPORTY MODELS

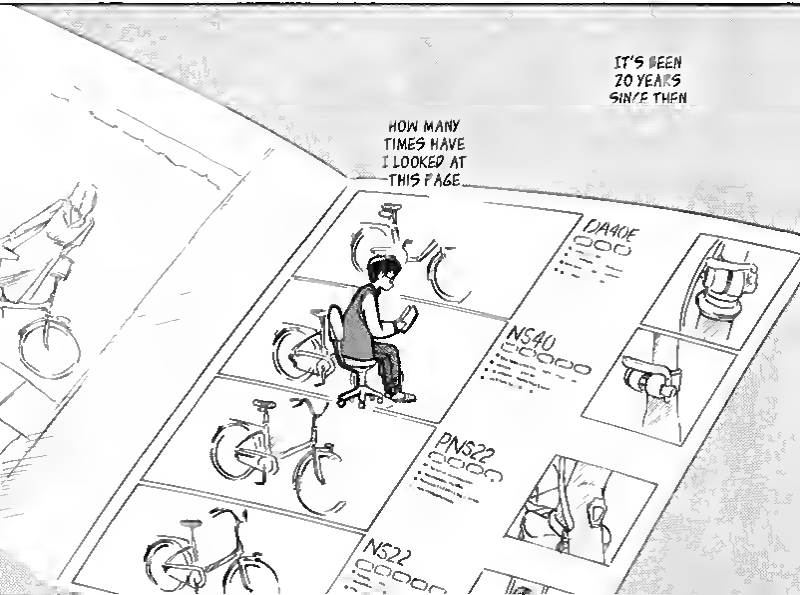

I GUESS I CAN GO TAKE A LOOK...
MINI-CYCLE?
THERE'S ALSO A MINI-CYCLE THAT CAME IN WITH THAT ONE TAKAO


PARISIAN
THEY CALL IT THE PEUGEOT N540

THE FRENCH CERTAINLY DO HAVE EXCELLENT DESIGN SENSE, DON'T THEY.....
EVEN FOR A CHEAP LITTLE MINI CYCLE LIKE THIS
HOW IS IT?
First time I've seen a bike like this..
It's pretty, isn't it...

SFX. Ring dong
キーン コーン
カーン
HEY, C'MON TAKAO
WHAT'RE YOU SPACING OUT FOR
SO NICE THAT PEUGEOT
THIS'S RAD, HE'S BEEN THIS WAY SINCE YESTERDAY...
I WONDER HOW MUCH I'D HAVE TO WORK TO BUY IT...
YOU IDIOT, TAKAO! YOU'RE FORGETTING SOMETHING REAL IMPORTANT
EVEN IF YOU BUY IT IT'D BE WORTHLESS
SFX. Disappointment
WHADDYA MEAN!!
WHO'S GONNA RIDE IT?

I told you not to laugh
Jeez
AHH, THAT WAS FUNNY
BUHA HAHA HAHA HAHA
AND SO THAT'S HOW MY FIRST LOVE, MY PASSION FOR THE PEUGEOT N540 ENDED WITH A BROKEN HEART
ANYWAY I'LL LEAVE MY BIKE TO YOU
<3
SFX. Spin
PEUGEOT
カタ...


IT'S BEEN 20 YEARS SINCE THEN
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I LOOKED AT THIS PAGE
DAHON
N540
PNS22
N522

SHE'S ALWAYS THERE SMILING QUIETLY AT ME

THE PARISIAN IN THE CATALOG

SFX: Click

NEO-CYCLING'S EDITOR-SAN, THANKS FOR BEFORE...

HELLO, TAKAO HERE

SFX: Rirnng rirnng

I WOULDN'T FORGET SUCH A FUNNY STORY

AHAHA, SO YOU REMEMBERED THAT? HOW EMBARRASSING

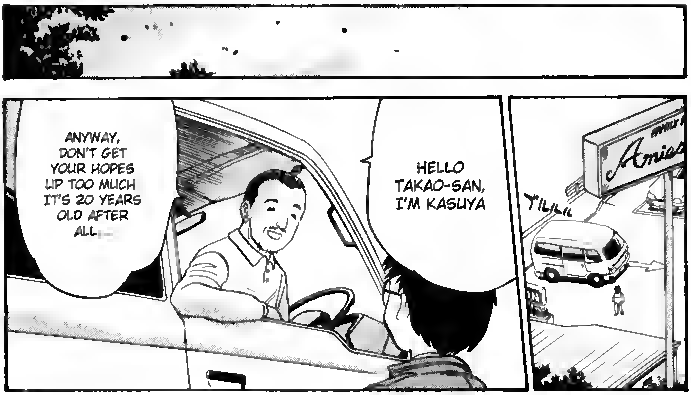
ANYWAY, ABOUT THAT...

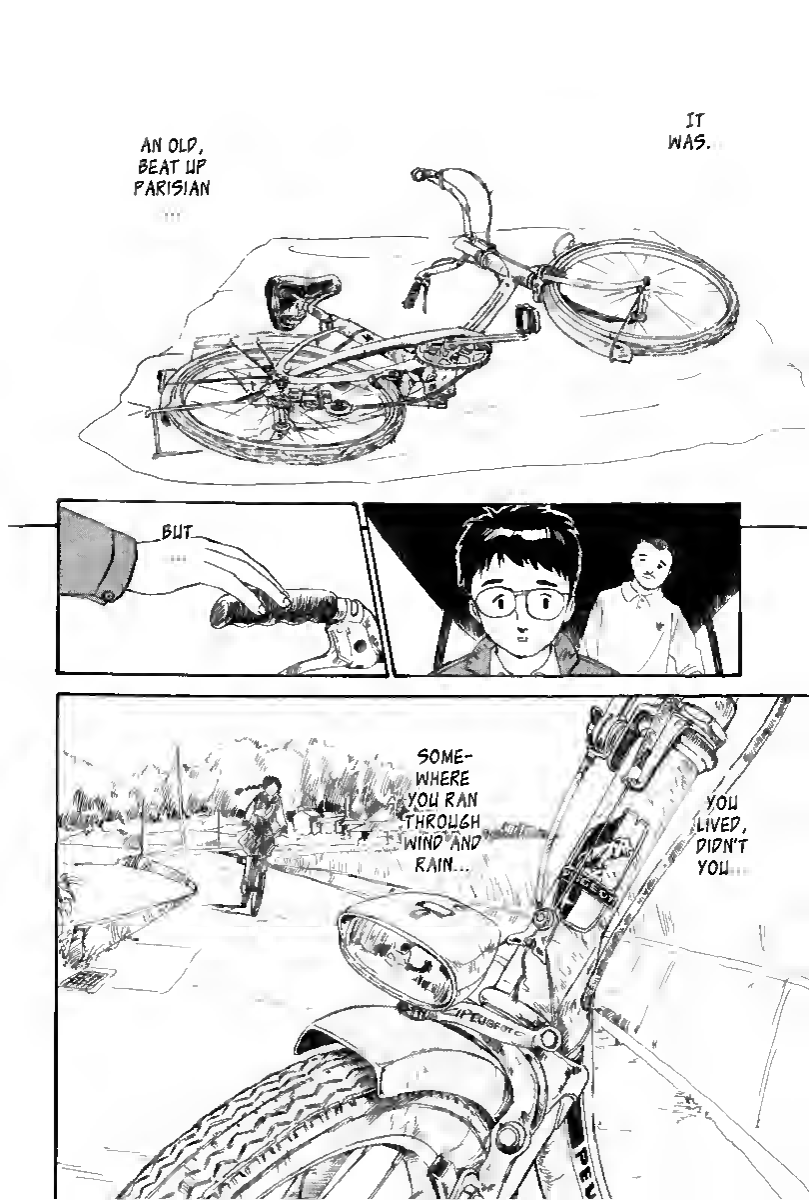
ABOUT THE NSAO, RIGHT

TAKAO-SAN WHEN YOU CAME IN HERE TO BUY THOSE BACK ISSUES BEFORE, WE WERE TALKING...

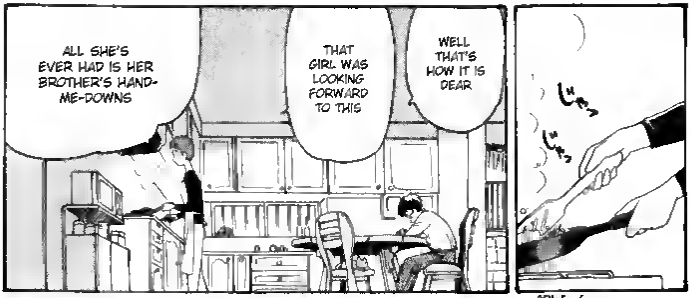
SFX. Write write write

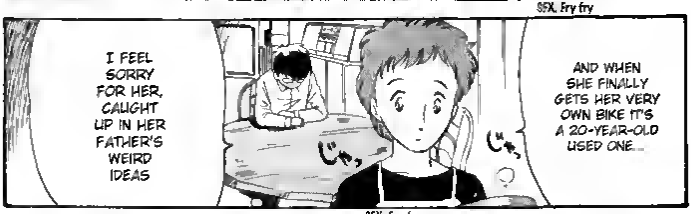
THE OTHER DAY HE FOUND A PLACE THAT SELLS USED PEUGEOTS
ONE OF OUR WRITERS, KASUYA-KUN...
EH
WE'VE GOT ONE. AN N5HO
HELLO, DID YOU HEAR ME, TAKAO-SAN?
HELLO...!
AND I BELIEVE AMONG THOSE WAS A N5HO

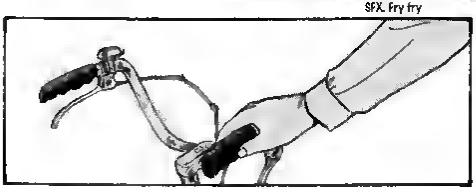

ANYWAY, DON'T GET YOUR HOPES UP TOO MUCH IT'S 20 YEARS OLD AFTER ALL...
HELLO TAKAO-SAN, I'M KASUYA
SFX. Vrrrrm

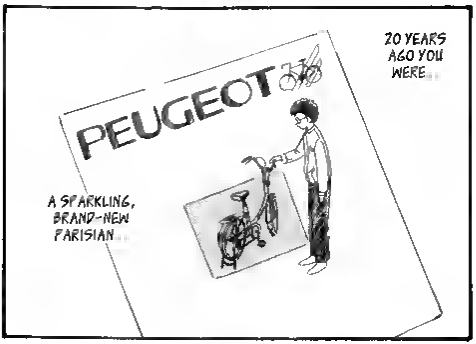

AN OLD, BEAT UP PARISIAN ...
IT WAS.
BUT ...
SOME-WHERE YOU RAN THROUGH WIND AND RAIN...
YOU LIVED, DIDN'T YOU...
PEUGEOT

YOU'RE NOT BROKEN..
YOU LIVED!!
THIS IS MY BIKE FROM NOW ON?
SO
WANTED A COOL MOUNTAIN BIKE LIKE ONII-CHAN
I KINDA...
IT'S KINDA OLD ISN'T IT...
AH.. WELL.. WAKABA..


ALL SHE'S EVER HAD IS HER BROTHER'S HAND-ME-DOWNS
THAT GIRL WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS
WELL THAT'S HOW IT IS DEAR
SFX. Fry fry


I FEEL SORRY FOR HER, CAUGHT UP IN HER FATHER'S WEIRD IDEAS
AND WHEN SHE FINALLY GETS HER VERY OWN BIKE IT'S A 20-YEAR-OLD USED ONE...
SFX. Fry fry

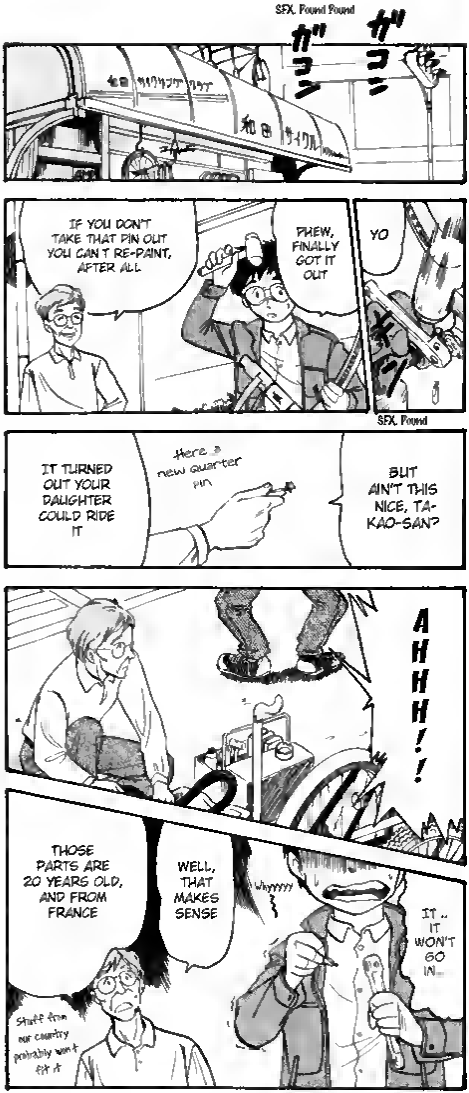


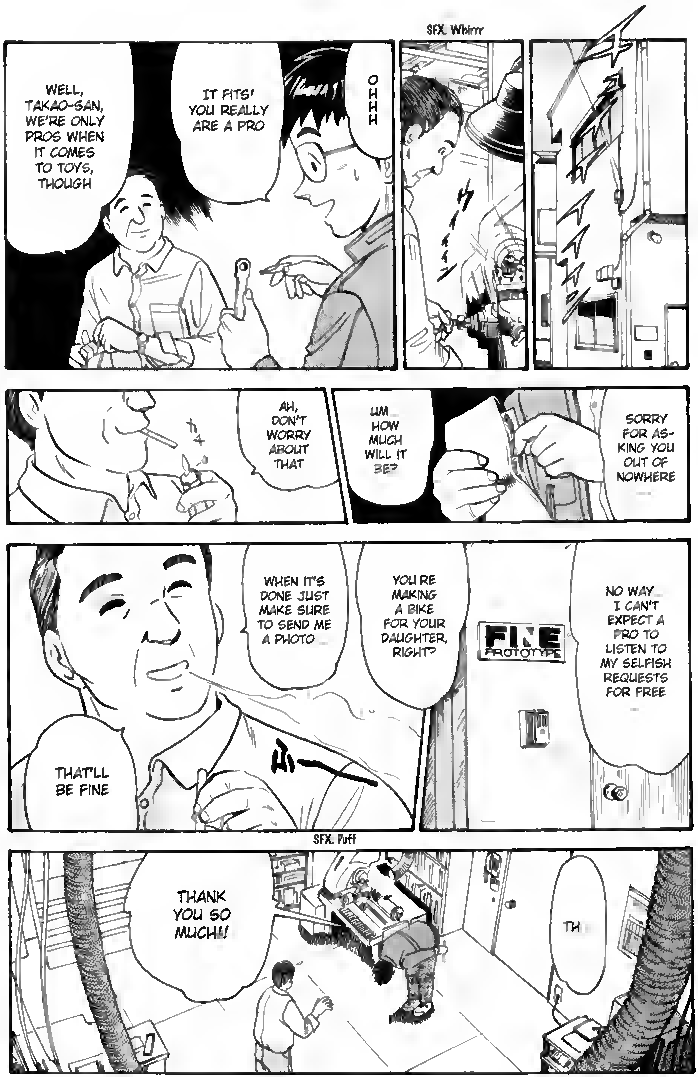

20 YEARS AGO YOU WERE...
PEUGEOT
A SPARKLING, BRAND-NEW PARISIAN...

CAUGHT UP...
IN HER FATHER'S WEIRD IDEAS

SFX. Tighten tighten / Twist twist
SFX. Creak
SPAR-
KLING
..?
DADDY,
TIME FOR
DINNER
YEAH
AH, I'LL
BE RIGHT
DOWN
HUH?
WHAT'S
THIS?
IS IT
PART
OF THAT
BIKE?
IT'S
REALLY
SHINY
WOW, SO
IF YOU POLISH
IT, IT CAN LOOK
THIS PRETTY
AND
IT'S NOT
JUST THE
PARTS
THE
FRAME TOO.
IF I RE-PAINT
IT IT'LL SPARKLE
JUST AS MUCH
IT TAKES
SOME TIME,
THOUGH...
SFX. Rub rub

IT'LL BE REBORN AS A BRIGHT, SHINY NEW BIKE
YEAH, ANY COLOR YOU WANT
YOU CAN DO THAT !?
RE-PAINT ...
SFX: Tug tug
HM?
ABOUT THE COLOR ...
HEHE
UM...
SFX: Windy


SFX. Found Found
ガコン
ガコン
IF YOU DON'T TAKE THAT PIN OUT YOU CAN'T RE-PAINT, AFTER ALL
PHEW, FINALLY GOT IT OUT
YO
SFX. Found
IT TURNED OUT YOUR DAUGHTER COULD RIDE IT
Here a new quarter pin
BUT AIN'T THIS NICE, TA-KAO-SAN?
AHHH!!
THOSE PARTS ARE 20 YEARS OLD, AND FROM FRANCE
WELL, THAT MAKES SENSE
Whyyyy
IT.. IT WON'T GO IN...
Stuff from our country probably won't fit it
IS IT REALLY ALRIGHT
FOR ME TO PICK ANY COLOR I WANT?


SFX. GRRRRRR
SFX. Whirrr
OHHH
IT FITS! YOU REALLY ARE A PRO
WELL, TAKAO-SAN, WE'RE ONLY PROS WHEN IT COMES TO TOYS, THOUGH
SORRY FOR ASKING YOU OUT OF NOWHERE
UM... HOW MUCH WILL IT BE?
AH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT
NO WAY... I CAN'T EXPECT A PRO TO LISTEN TO MY SELFISH REQUESTS FOR FREE
FINE PROTOTYPE
YOU'RE MAKING A BIKE FOR YOUR DAUGHTER, RIGHT?
WHEN IT'S DONE JUST MAKE SURE TO SEND ME A PHOTO...
THAT'LL BE FINE
SFX. Puff
THANK YOU SO MUCH!!
TH

THIS IS NO GOOD TOO
OH MY
YEAH, I GUESS THIS IS ONE OF THE THINGS I DEFINITELY NEED TO REPLACE
THE RUBBER'S FALLING APART IT'S PRACTICALLY ROTTEN
UWAHH, WHAT'S WITH THIS TIRE!?
和田サイクル
'FRAID SO THIS RIM WON'T MATCH UP WITH TODAY'S TIRE SIZES AT ALL
OLD MAN YOU DON'T MEAN...
NO GOOD...

THE TIRE..
THE METAL PARTS CAN BE RE-MADE OR RE-SIZED BUT...

IT'S LIKE BEFORE MY EYES
A HUGE BLACK WALL HAD SUDDENLY SPRUNG UP...
WEL-COME HOME DADDY
Grrr
Grrr
HEY, WAKA-BA...
I'VE DECI-DED

EH?
.....
THE COLOR OF MY BIKE!?
I WANT IT TO BE THE SAME BLUE AS DADDY'S BIKE!!

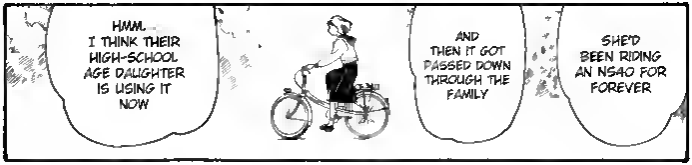
SFX: Flowwwwww

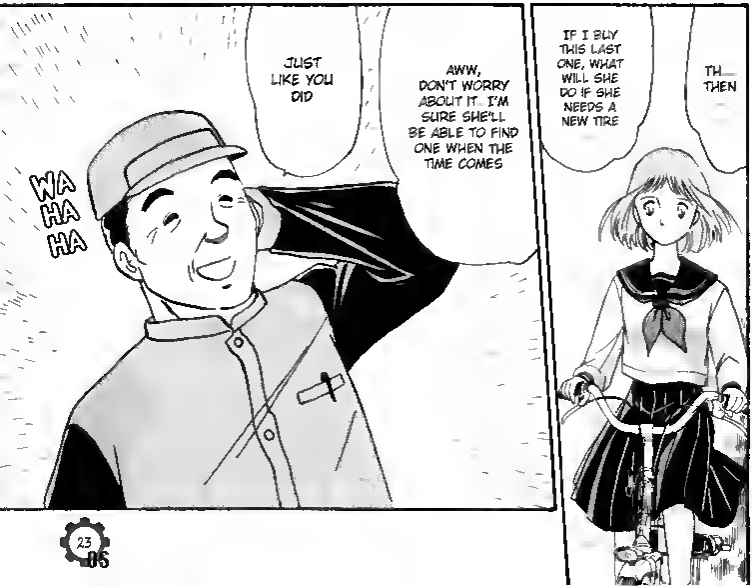
I'M SEARCHING!!
HUH?
WHAT'S WITH ALL THOSE OLD BIKE BOOKS?
I'M HOME... OH, OLD MAN, WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
ドサッ
SFX: Whum
SPORTS BIKE PARTS ARE HARD ENOUGH TO FIND, BUT FOR A MINI-CYCLE...?
I DON'T EVEN THINK THEY'RE USING THAT SIZE IN FRANCE ANYMORE
IT WOULD'VE BEEN GIVEN AWAY TO A RECYCLE SHOP AGES AGO...
A TIRE FROM 20 YEARS AGO? NO WAY, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
WAKABA
SFX: Click
THAT'S THE 32ND ONE
CRAP

SORRY...
MAKE IT LIGHT BLUE, PLEASE
BECAUSE
IT'S THE SAME AS THE SKY
I REALLY LOVE THAT COLOR

SFX. Click
EH?
. . . .
I'M WONDERING IF YOU MIGHT HAVE ANY TIRES FOR THE OLD NS40 MODEL
BRR
SORRY UM...
ガチャ
SFX. Slam
DINNER'S ON
WAKABA !!
THEY HAVE ONE!!
THEY HAVE ONE!!
SFX. VRRRRRRRM
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK
THEY HAVE ONE WHAT ?
I DUNNO MAYBE DAD'S RUSHING TO MEET A DEADLINE OR SOMETHING
AHH
NO DINNER FOR YOU !!
... GOOD GIRL

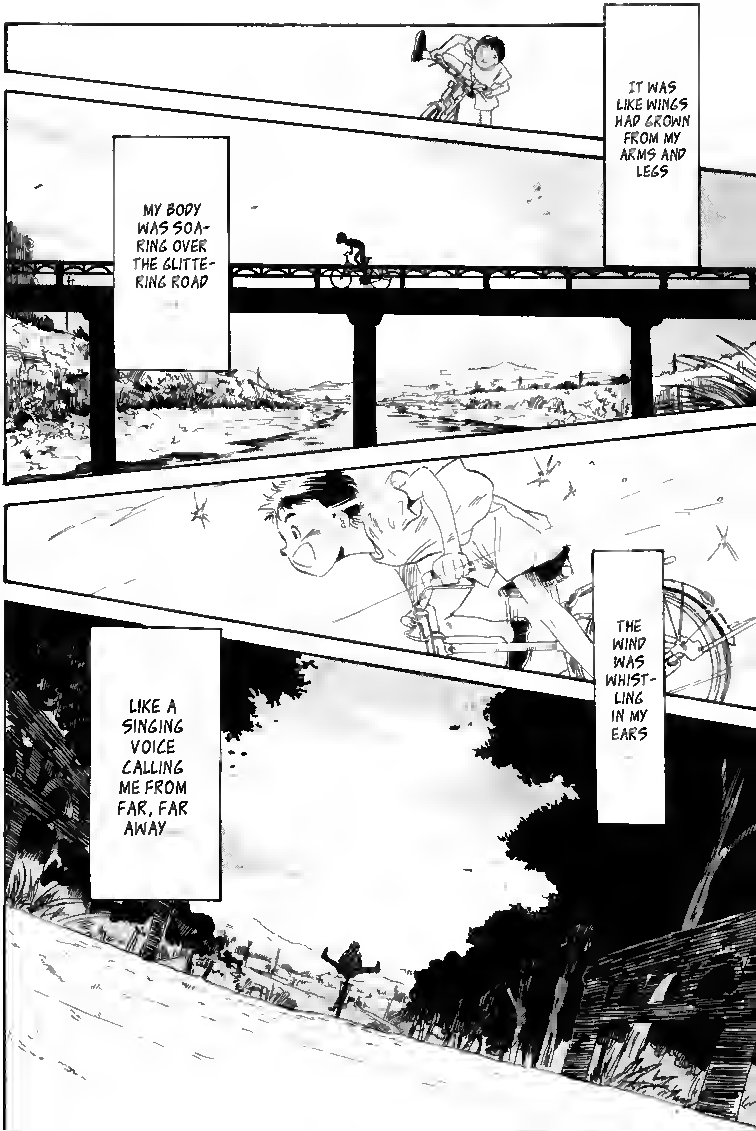
AKAO CYCLE
YOU'RE LUCKY THIS WAS OUR LAST PAIR
HERE YOU GO A 550A TIRE
BRAND NEW
I can't believe it!
IT'S
OH WELL WE'VE GOT THIS CUSTOMER
HUH?
WHY ON EARTH DO YOU HAVE THIS
PLEASE TELL ME


HMM... I THINK THEIR HIGH-SCHOOL AGE DAUGHTER IS USING IT NOW
AND THEN IT GOT PASSED DOWN THROUGH THE FAMILY
SHE'D BEEN RIDING AN NSA0 FOR FOREVER


WA HA HA
JUST LIKE YOU DID
AWW, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. I'M SURE SHE'LL BE ABLE TO FIND ONE WHEN THE TIME COMES
IF I BUY THIS LAST ONE, WHAT WILL SHE DO IF SHE NEEDS A NEW TIRE
TH... THEN

SFX: Polish Polish
IT'S ALL CLEAN NOW
YEP
DAD
I WANT TO HELP OUT...
OKAY
THEN, PLEASE POLISH THIS
OKAY !!
SFX: Polish Polish

DADDY YOU...
REALLY LIKE BIKES, DON'T YOU
WAKABA
DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN I FIRST TAUGHT YOU TO RIDE?
I REMEMBER!!
YOU TAUGHT ME OVER IN THAT ACORN PARK!!
YOU FELL OVER A BUNCH, BUT ONCE YOU COULD RIDE YOU WERE HAPPY RIGHT?
YEAH!!
THE BIKE I FIRST RODE ...


IT WAS LIKE WINGS HAD GROWN FROM MY ARMS AND LEGS
MY BODY WAS SOARING OVER THE GLITTERING ROAD
THE WIND WAS WHISTLING IN MY EARS
LIKE A SINGING VOICE CALLING ME FROM FAR, FAR AWAY

HERE YOU GO, TAKAO-SAN. THE FRAME IS ALL READY
サイクル
BUT...
IT'S CLEAN NOW, BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE MUCH PERSONALITY...
It's lost its Peugeot-ness
HEHE
TADA!!
THOSE... THOSE ARE PEUGEOT...?
WHERE DID YOU FIND THESE?
THIS IS WHERE IT HELPS BEING INTO GRAPHIC DESIGN MYSELF!
I MADE THEM MYSELF!!
SFX Wahaha
SO YOU LIKE THEM TOO
はは
WELL THEN, LOOKS LIKE IT'S FINALLY COMPLETE!!
THANKS SO MUCH FOR EVERYTHING!!

THE PRESTIGE I BOUGHT ON A WHIM 10 YEARS AGO...
SFX. Rustle
LOOKS LIKE I'LL FINALLY GET A CHANCE TO PUT IT TO USE...
SFX. Click-click
SFX. Step step step
DAD
ARE YOU STILL WORKING? IT'S MORNING...
SFX. Creak

I CAN RIDE IT!!
SFX Whoosh
I WONDER IF IT'S ALRIGHT
YOU CAN BARELY REACH THE GROUND WITH YOUR TIP-TOES
SFX Whoooosh

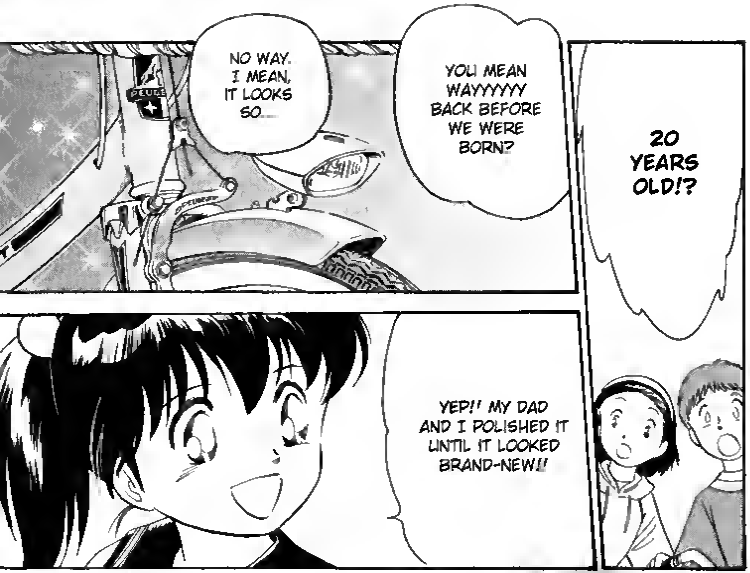
I'M RIDING IT!
I'M RID-ING
LOOK! DAD

WA KA BA !!
ガシャーン
AH
ずる
SFX. Crash
SFX. Slip
!!
I SLIPPED
HEHE LOOKS LIKE I MESSED UP
AHH HHHH
AH...
THERE'S A SCRA-TCH
AH
SFX. Pat
ぽん
I SCR-ATCHED DADDY'S TREASURE
I'M SORRY I'M SO SORRY DADDY
WAAAAAAAHHHH

WA-KABA
FROM TODAY
IT'S YOUR TREA-SURE
BUT ..
THIS ISN'T THE KIND OF TREASURE YOU JUST SET ASIDE
IT SHINES MOST WHEN YOU RIDE IT
FALL . . .
THEN GET UP AND RIDE IT AGAIN
FOR 20 YEARS NOW THIS BIKE HAS BEEN GA-THERING MEMOR-IES
FROM NOW ON, MAKE SURE TO CREATE LOTS OF NEW, WON-DERFUL MEMO-RIES TOGETHER WITH IT
SFX: Clatter

MAIL'S HERE

WAKABA-CHAN
YAHHO!
IT MUST BE A NEW MODEL!!
HMMM
IT'S ABOUT 20 YEARS OLD, SO DEFINITELY NOT NEW
I'VE NEVER SEEN A BIKE LIKE THAT BEFORE
WAKABA-CHAN, YOUR BIKE'S A LITTLE WEIRD ISN'T IT


NO WAY. I MEAN, IT LOOKS SO...
YOU MEAN WAYYYYYY BACK BEFORE WE WERE BORN?
20 YEARS OLD!?
YEP!! MY DAD AND I POLISHED IT UNTIL IT LOOKED BRAND-NEW!!

JUST LIKE THAT SKY!

CONTINUED IN VOLUME 2

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